Yahoo Group Archive: Radioassistancenetwork

Yahoo Group summary: NBEMS Radio Assistance Network

These Yahoo Groups messages were archived in WARC format by ArchiveTeam in 2018. This PDF was generated by Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications from the WARC files in 2026.

Date span: 2012-10-08 through 2013-05-21

Source WARC: radioassistancenetwork.DWi0LkL.warc.gz

Source item: https://archive.org/details/yahoo-groups-2018-10-01T08-30-34Z-045028

Messages included in this PDF: 189

Yahoo replaced the domain portions of email addresses with @... in the archived messages. Characters lost in Yahoo's archived text appear as ?.

Messages are presented in ascending Yahoo message-ID order. Gaps indicate records absent from the source WARC or messages omitted from this PDF as spam.

1. Idea is launched

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-08 00:20:38 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 1 Message: 1

Comments about the concepts on the web page are welcome.

Andy K3UK

The HF Radio Assistance Network

MONITOR : World Wide via Digital Modes 14065 USB, 7043 USB . North America : 14065 USB, 3583.5 USB, 7073 USB
and Channel 5 5403.5 kHz Voice , CW or Digital on 60M in the UK and USA. (Please email k3uk if you have other suggested frequencies)

About The HF Radio Assistance Network: The HF Radio Assistance Network is a network of amateur radio and SWLs that monitor the high frequency bands for emergency or urgent communication needs, and render assistance where needed. Members of the The HF Radio Assistance Network also participate in practice drills and casual experimentation testing applications, testing propagation, and testing effective message handling methods. The HF Radio Assistance Network has no formal command structure, no appointed officers, no election politics. Membership is free. The operations of the The HF Radio Assistance Network are based on suggestions of the members and rely entirely on their operating practices .

Why The HF Radio Assistance Network? The HF Radio Assistance Network was started as a supplement to other emergency communication groups (e.g. RACES, RAYNET, ARES, SKYWARN, SATERN) and as an alternative to those groups that have rigid requirements. At the HF Radio Assistance Network there is no insistence on credentials, no background checks, no credit checks, no mandatory training, no ICS certificates required. No field deployment is expected, no generators required. No required net participation. No one expects you to run out in the middle of the night. No ID cards or badges required. No vests, no funny hard hats. The HF Radio Assistance Network is expected to be mainly regional and international in focus. Local emergencies are where we expect RACES or ARES to be involved and you are encouraged to support these groups. On a regional, national, or international level however we feel that home based communication is effective using existing antennas and equipment that hams or SWL's use every day. While use of the Internet can be essential, the primary communication method for the HF Radio Assistance Network is via high frequency radio waves. We expected to be back-up operators, not first responders.

How Do I Join? Formal membership is not required, so anyone can participate whether a "member" or not. However, you can join our email group and be involved in on-going discussion and also contribute new ideas on the development of HF Radio Assistance Network. You can join via this link http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/

What Do The HF Radio Assistance Network Members Do ? At a minimum, we would like you to monitor the suggested frequencies listed above. Monitor them casually when you have nothing else to do, or monitor them intensify, it is up to you. The frequencies chosen have other activities such as NBEMS, ARES, or SATERN nets. These nets sometimes put out bulletins and conduct training in message handling. Some of the methods used do not even require you to be actively listening, some amateur radio software can monitor and store messages while;le

you are out of the shack. As the The HF Radio Assistance Network grows The HF Radio Assistance Network nets will be developed and additional message handling practice sessions will be held. If an actual emergency situation develops, perhaps a snow storm, earth quake, hurricane, tornado, plane crash, or civil emergency with heath and welfare implications, monitor the suggested frequencies in the event that traffic needs to be passed or relayed. If you are in an affected area and have reliable information, consider formatting a report that advises others that are monitoring of your situation . If you local ARES or RACES has been activated, use he HF Radio Assistance Network suggested frequencies for advising others of the activation.

Monitor the 8-8 12 Network: We would like members to self-activate a RAN Net at 8AM, 8PM, and 12 midnight LOCAL TIME. Seven days per week. Yes, it could always be 8AM, 8PM, and 12 midnight somewhere in the world. Realistically, depending on the band you choose, you may hear operations centered around a three to four hour window at the top of each hour. The times are chosen as the times of day hams are most likely to be home and have time to participate. To participate in the nets, pick a frequency from the ones listed above and listen for activity. Obviously, for activity to begin , someone has to break the silence and transmit a "CQ HF Radio Assistance Network" call. Anyone can do this. We have borrowed on the NTS Simplex Night concept, if you don't hear anyone, call "CQ HF Radio Assistance Network" yourself. Use common sense and ethical amateur radio principles to solve multiple CQ calls around the same time. Establish a round table net on the fly, if needed. Assign a NCS based on those that have checked in. It is all good training in the event of a real emergency scenario. If you call CQ using a digital mode, the use of Olivia 800/5 is suggested as the mode used for start up operations. At the moment , 60M is the only suggested band for voice operations but we are open to suggestions on other bands.

Training Goals. The minimum goal is for members to gain proficiency in relaying or initiating a message in the event of an emergency. Voice, and CW can be quite effective but digital modes can be extra helpful where much detail is needed and accuracy is essential. Amateur Radio already has very effective system for reliable communication of messages. This includes Winlink 2000 //Winmor, PSKMAIL, APRS, NTS, and Packet Radio Networks . Our hope is that you will acquire knowledge on how to pass messages via any of these system. In addition , direct message handling via the renown NBEMS method seen in Fldigi and Multipsk will be a primary skill that we would like HF Radio Assistance Network members to be proficient in. Monitor the suggested frequencies for more information and feel free to ask questions on the nets or via the group mail list

Suggested Software: For digital modes The HF Radio Assistance Network recommends Fldigi and or Multipsk. For supplemental digital message handling, The HF Radio Assistance Network also suggests Winmor, PSKmail, or Winlink 2000. For help with any of these modes, please join http://groups.yahoo.com/group/digitalradio/ .

Suggested Training: Members can always ask for advice via the email lists at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/ , in addition the ARRL has a link to NBEMS training via http://www.arrl.org/nbems . You will also find additional help via http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NBEMSham/ and via video at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psP489NOkg0

Additional Training Nets:

PA-NBEMS 3583.5 USB at 10AM Eastern each Sunday . Net moves to 7073 at 11 AM..
Eastern Caribbean Emergency Messaging System (EC-NBEMS) net. This net will convene every Sunday at 21:00 UTC on 7.036 USB using Olivia 8/500 for general check-ins and MT63-1000 for

passing messages.
NY State NBEMS Net . Saturday Mornings 10AM Eastern, 7036 USB, Olvia 8/500
East Coast NBEMS Wednesday 7:00 PM local eastern 7.036 mHz 1kHz Olivia 8/500 MT63-1000

Please email k3uk if you have other nets that you would like adding to this list.

CW frequencies may be added if there is interested. The Maryland Slow Net is recommended for training in NTS traffic handling via CW. In the western USA, try the Texas Slow Net . Canadian members may wish to try http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/learnnet.htm

Take The HF-RAN Training Challenge: E-certificates of NBEMS Proficiency are available to those who successfully send and receive traffic via NBEMS method to K3UK or other approved recipient stations . This can be direct to K3UK when he checks in to a HF Radio Assistance Network Net or any other NBEMS Net. It can also be via a relay station if you want to pass it to another station who then will send/receive from K3UK as a relay. If you would also like to serve as a recipient station for this award , please contact K3UK to be added to the list . An E-certificate of proficiency is also available for successful passing and receiving of messages on HF via Winmor or PSKMAIL.

What Can I Do As An SWL? Short Wave Listeners are encouraged to participate via copying messages that may be relayed on the nets. SWLs may also copy received traffic and enter traffic for delevery via Internet email when a situation dictates.

2. Re: Idea is launched

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-08 01:31:32 UTC
From: kb3fxi
Topic: 1 Message: 2

Andy,

Thanks for starting the group and putting out the idea. I like it!

I might suggest that HF Radio Assistance Network designate call spot frequencies with both dial and waterfall frequencies. paNBEMS has changed our call spot listings to always reflect USB dial frequency with a standard 1500 Hz center waterfall frequency, which, BTW, is required on the US 60m channels.

Another idea we have been exploring within paNBEMS are Bulletin Schedules on specific spots and specific times for regional or national HF coverage. Rather than paNBEMS running these bulletins, I'd like to suggest (if the group is interested) that we move this effort to the HF Radio Assistance Network.

Our thoughts on the bulletin schedules are that just about anyone can participate by monitoring and copying (including SWL), even if they don't have a direct wired sound card interface. This could be a great, low pressure way, to promote digital ops on HF because all that is required is a computer with a working sound card and mic (plug in or internal) and an HF SSB receiver.

I'll be glad to help in any way I can and I'll be following along with great interest.

-Dave, KB3FXI
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/paNBEMS/

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "obrienaj" <k3uk@...> wrote:
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> Comments about the concepts on the web page are welcome.
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> Andy K3UK
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> The HF Radio Assistance Network
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3. Re: Idea is launched

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-08 02:27:37 UTC
From: n2nov
Topic: 1 Message: 3

The NY-NBEMS and USeast-NBEMS nets also moved to 1500 hz waterfall spot.

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "kb3fxi" <kb3fxi@...> wrote:
> I might suggest that HF Radio Assistance Network designate call spot frequencies with both dial and waterfall frequencies. paNBEMS has changed our call spot listings to always reflect USB dial frequency with a standard 1500 Hz center waterfall frequency, which, BTW, is required on the US 60m channels.

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4. Re: Idea is launched

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-08 16:58:11 UTC
From: n8gbu
Topic: 1 Message: 4

Excellent Idea.....many years ago I was listen somewhere around the 160 meter band on H.F. when I heard a ship...with very weak signal calling " Mayday " I was young and didn't know what to do. Hopefully through this group I can learn what to do if the need ever arises again!!! Mike/ N8GBU/AE

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5. welcome to the new idea

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-08 17:01:17 UTC
From: Chris Myers
Topic: 5 Message: 5

Here in my corner of western Massachusetts it seems that activities under the umbrella of ARES and RACES are dying off, contrary to what you might expect after the four declared natural disasters of last year.

I understand that the new network is not intended to replace the old organizations, but it could be a very good way to promote the interest and attention of those who want to stay involved.

I plan to start monitoring the suggested frequencies.

Chris Myers, KB1NEK
town of Shelburne, Franklin County, MA

6. Intro:

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-08 17:58:53 UTC
From: kc7fyd
Topic: 6 Message: 6

I enjoy working the digital modes and have been using FLDIGI and was interested in starting at NBEMS in the Pacific NW. I did host a 7am NBEMS net on Saturday mornings it seemed a little early for most operators. I finally discontinued it because of lack of participation. I think the intention of the Radio Assistance Network is a great idea.

It seems that there is always something new to explore it may be new to some but old to others. I feel it is great to be able to glean something from every operator because of their varied experiences and knowledge.

My son and I enjoyed our time working with local search and rescue unit. I had the opportunity to operate the communications van and my son was on the ground search unit.

7. Re: Idea is launched

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 00:03:31 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 1 Message: 7

Good ideas Dave, will do.

Andy

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "kb3fxi" <kb3fxi@...> wrote:
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> I'll be glad to help in any way I can and I'll be following along with great interest.
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> -Dave, KB3FXI
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/paNBEMS/
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8. Re: welcome to the new idea

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 00:04:21 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 5 Message: 8

Thanks for the comments so. The Microsoft gods conspired and immediately after launching the idea my shack PC's OS crashed. So, tonight rather than get on the air and I loading up my laptop with applications relative to ham radio. I should be operational by the end of the evening. The laptop is much faster, time to retire my 10 years old XP desktop machine.

Some of the basic ideas for this group followed my two year stint as ARES EC and specially several situations where host agencies relied on us as essentially first responders rather than people to sue "when all else fails". The idea further cemented itself when at a recent ARES -Red Cross Drill where we deployed 5 different stations, I realized that none were really needed except the EOC. We could have achieved the same goal by all operating from home.

The idea started when ,as a new EC a couple of years ago, I addressed a group of hams that felt "rejected and unwanted" when I explained the ARES mandated training requirements. While I think training in things like the ICS is good, I had a hard time telling dedicated hams that they were no longer welcome unless they passed on-line tests. I began to realize that many of the requirements made good sense if the ham was interacting with other agencies in government buildings where security and proper credentials were important. However relaying from home based stations does not need such rigid requirements.

Andy K3UK
--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Chris Myers" <camyers41@...> wrote:
>
> Here in my corner of western Massachusetts it seems that activities under the umbrella of ARES and RACES are dying off, contrary to what you might expect after the four declared natural disasters of last year.
>
> I understand that the new network is not intended to replace the old organizations, but it could be a very good way to promote the interest and attention of those who want to stay involved.
>
> I plan to start monitoring the suggested frequencies.
>
> Chris Myers, KB1NEK
> town of Shelburne, Franklin County, MA
>

9. Re: Intro:

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 00:07:51 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 6 Message: 9

I did a 7AM net too, same outcome. Other than a couple of NBEMS nets, most really suffer from low utilization. Part of the new idea is to have times of each day where anyone can call up a "net" rather than have people saddled with the role of HAVING to be NCS. Clearly, there are some drawback to this idea but hopefully others will improve on my concept.

Andy K3UK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "kc7fyd" <kc7fyd@...> wrote:
>
> I enjoy working the digital modes and have been using FLDIGI and was interested in starting at NBEMS in the Pacific NW. I did host a 7am NBEMS net on Saturday mornings it seemed a little early for most operators. I finally discontinued it because of lack of participation. I think the intention of the Radio Assistance Network is a great idea.
>
> It seems that there is always something new to explore it may be new to some but old to others. I feel it is great to be able to glean something from every operator because of their varied experiences and knowledge.
>
> My son and I enjoyed our time working with local search and rescue unit. I had the opportunity to operate the communications van and my son was on the ground search unit.
>

10. Now scanning RAN frequencies.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 00:14:59 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 10 Message: 10

I have my new shack PC mostly set-up, I am scanning the RAN suggested frequencies tonight. I missed the 8PM call-up hour but will lsiten to see if anyone in central or mountain time calls at their 8PM.

My scan dwell time is set for 5 seconds with a total scan run 25 seconds.

Andy K3UK

11. RE: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Intro:

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 00:35:39 UTC
From: Paul Cavnar
Topic: 6 Message: 11

Hi Andy and the Group -

I am happy to be a part of this group as it gets off the ground. There are plenty of great ideas being discussed and I believe that most of us here simply want to be able to help where we can, when we can and do it the best way we know how.

Speaking of a "net".... Several of the group live on the east coast. Having a net at a particular time EST is great. Except, out here on the 'left coast' we haven't gotten there yet. A net that meets at 8:00pm EST is 5:00pm in the west and some of us are just leaving our workplaces and for a few, it will be some time before we can think of settling down in the hamshack and tuning up for a net....

Some years ago, another group that I am part of that functions on a national basis, tried to figure out a time to hold a net on 20m that most everyone could participate in. The last several years proved that simply impossible so, another solution was needed. The people in the east didn't want to stay up late just to accommodate the people out west and vice-versa. What was tried and worked rather well was what we termed a "rolling net". That net was held at the same time of the day and started in EST zone then moved to CST, MST and finished up PST. There was little interaction between the time zones but, there were enough overlapping stations that any bulletins or traffic that was to be moved was done. But, each time zone gathered and held their net, sent any bulletins, had a roundtable discussion and moved any traffic they had.....

How that gets done for this group is up to us but, as we grow, it would be good to have stations we can contact when needed at an appointed time and frequency. As loosely as we are organized, we still need a "plan" so that we're not all on different bands and frequencies trying to contact each other. I know we have some initial suggested frequencies but, we may also want to look into places on bands that are not normally occupied with digital signals, possibly at the lower or upper ends of those areas of the band????

That's my $.02 for the group this evening. :)

73, Paul Cavnar - AE7VT
Reno, Nevada

-----Original Message-----
From: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
[mailto:Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of obrienaj
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2012 5:08 PM
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Intro:

I did a 7AM net too, same outcome. Other than a couple of NBEMS nets, most really suffer from low utilization. Part of the new idea is to have times of each day where anyone can call up a "net" rather than have people saddled with the role of HAVING to be NCS. Clearly, there are some drawback to this idea but hopefully others will improve on my concept.

Andy K3UK

12. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Intro:

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 02:29:24 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 6 Message: 12

Paul,

Great idea on the rolling nets.

I've found that 20m is very unpredictable with the limited number of test stations we've worked with to date. I think you really need strength in numbers (like on the maritime mobile nets) with big gun stations running relay to pull off any kind of reliable nets on 20m and even 30m.

I think that maybe our best bet is working 40m with the rolling nets. But how do we move traffic and info from the West Coast to East?

It sure would be nice if we could pull some of the big gun contest stations into the fray.

In any case, these will be some challenging and fun problems to work on.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Paul Cavnar <paul.cavnar@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, October 8, 2012 8:35 PM
Subject: RE: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Intro:

Hi Andy and the Group -

I am happy to be a part of this group as it gets off the ground. There are plenty of great ideas being discussed and I believe that most of us here simply want to be able to help where we can, when we can and do it the best way we know how.

Speaking of a "net".... Several of the group live on the east coast. Having a net at a particular time EST is great. Except, out here on the 'left coast' we haven't gotten there yet. A net that meets at 8:00pm EST is 5:00pm in the west and some of us are just leaving our workplaces and for a few, it will be some time before we can think of settling down in the hamshack and tuning up for a net....

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moved was done. But, each time zone gathered and held their net, sent any bulletins, had a roundtable discussion and moved any traffic they had.....

How that gets done for this group is up to us but, as we grow, it would be good to have stations we can contact when needed at an appointed time and frequency. As loosely as we are organized, we still need a "plan" so that we're not all on different bands and frequencies trying to contact each other. I know we have some initial suggested frequencies but, we may also want to look into places on bands that are not normally occupied with digital signals, possibly at the lower or upper ends of those areas of the band????

That's my $.02 for the group this evening. :)

73, Paul Cavnar - AE7VT
Reno, Nevada

-----Original Message-----
From: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
[mailto:Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of obrienaj
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2012 5:08 PM
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Intro:

I did a 7AM net too, same outcome. Other than a couple of NBEMS nets, most really suffer from low utilization. Part of the new idea is to have times of each day where anyone can call up a "net" rather than have people saddled with the role of HAVING to be NCS. Clearly, there are some drawback to this idea but hopefully others will improve on my concept.

Andy K3UK

13. Hello

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 10:19:52 UTC
From: northernneckham
Topic: 13 Message: 13

Hello All,

I think this is a great idea and im sorry that people on the other group talked down this idea but i think every idea should be tried before condemed this might work out so lets give it a try
jeff kd4qit

14. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: welcome to the new idea

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 10:25:30 UTC
From: WD8ARZ
Topic: 5 Message: 14

Twenty five years ago I shared the same concept Andy with the EOC and Michigan State Police where we performed similar operations.

Tried to convince them that a couple key voice / digital stations at the EOC and State Police post could be supported by at home stations. That two rings of home / portable / mobile stations were needed. Those local and in the county for primary support, and a back up ring from surrounding counties when the disaster had significant impact in a target county and back up resources would be needed.

Of course agencies see that that their network of personal and communications systems and training will always be functional in some way or another .....

Key tip to keep those XP machines running well for ham radio. Do a new install of the OS, and dont put in any updates or programs that are not absolutely required. Keep it off the networks, and force close the auto update feature. New updates on old hardware bogs them down big time. Will repost here my OS configuration posted on other sites after I have a chance to review / update it. It free up resources, memory and stops behind the scenes data collocation that slows down the system.

Have bought a new Windows 7 laptop, and I am convinced it is the new super XP. Much better than Vista and so far runs all of my XP software very well. Windows 7 email tip - Forget the Microsoft provided Windows 7 email - Use the free Mozilla Thunderbird instead. Will post how to configure the installation of XP legacy software to 7 another time, but it is key to proper operation.

73 from Bill - WD8ARZ

On 10/8/2012 8:04 PM, obrienaj wrote:
>
>
> Thanks for the comments so. The Microsoft gods conspired and
> immediately after launching the idea my shack PC's OS crashed. So,
> tonight rather than get on the air and I loading up my laptop with
> applications relative to ham radio. I should be operational by the end
> of the evening. The laptop is much faster, time to retire my 10 years
> old XP desktop machine.
>
> Some of the basic ideas for this group followed my two year stint as
> ARES EC and specially several situations where host agencies relied on
> us as essentially first responders rather than people to sue "when all
> else fails". The idea further cemented itself when at a recent ARES
> -Red Cross Drill where we deployed 5 different stations, I realized

> that none were really needed except the EOC. We could have achieved
> the same goal by all operating from home.
>
> The idea started when ,as a new EC a couple of years ago, I addressed
> a group of hams that felt "rejected and unwanted" when I explained the
> ARES mandated training requirements. While I think training in things
> like the ICS is good, I had a hard time telling dedicated hams that
> they were no longer welcome unless they passed on-line tests. I began
> to realize that many of the requirements made good sense if the ham
> was interacting with other agencies in government buildings where
> security and proper credentials were important. However relaying from
> home based stations does not need such rigid requirements.
>
> Andy K3UK
> --- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> <mailto:Radioassistancenetwork%40yahoogroups.com>, "Chris Myers"
> <camyers41@...> wrote:
> >
> > Here in my corner of western Massachusetts it seems that activities
> under the umbrella of ARES and RACES are dying off, contrary to what
> you might expect after the four declared natural disasters of last year.
> >
> > I understand that the new network is not intended to replace the old
> organizations, but it could be a very good way to promote the interest
> and attention of those who want to stay involved.
> >
> > I plan to start monitoring the suggested frequencies.
> >
> > Chris Myers, KB1NEK
> > town of Shelburne, Franklin County, MA
>

15. Re: welcome to the new idea

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 12:11:41 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 5 Message: 15

Sounds like a good idea Bill. Of course, you and I also know that using ALE would save everyone on HF a whole lot of trouble.
As for the PC, I bought my college bound son an I5 laptop with 6 gigs of RAM and a terabyte HD for $597 and it is really fast. I should have bought myself one, it has Windows 7.
The laptop I am using is an I7 CPU but only 4 gigs of RAM and XP.

Andy
K3UK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, WD8ARZ <wd8arz@...> wrote:
>
> Twenty five years ago I shared the same concept Andy with the EOC and
> Michigan State Police where we performed similar operations.
>
> Tri

16. Re: Hello

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 12:13:14 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 13 Message: 16

Thanks Jeff, there is plenty of room for different ideas,

Andy K3UK
--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "northernneckham" <kd4qit@...> wrote:
>
> Hello All,
>
> I think this is a great idea and im sorry that people on the other group talked down this idea but i think every idea should be tried before condemed this might work out so lets give it a try
> jeff kd4qit
>

17. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: welcome to the new idea

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 12:27:33 UTC
From: WD8ARZ
Topic: 5 Message: 17

Windows 7 doesnt need as much ram for two reasons. Main one is the operating system of Windows 7. However many newer Windows 7 hardware designed systems have an internal 8gig solid state memory flash drive in addition to the external added 8 gig of of ram simms. Goes a long way to the speedy boot and managing of ram.

Some of the cpu's are now quad core but dual threaded, that ends up having 8 cpu's running dividing up the load. Windows 7 uses the newer methods and hardware techniques very very well. It is an i7 here. Great bang for the buck. I dont like getting leading edge until it has matured ... and isnt leading edge anymore ... hi hi Thus avoided i9 on purpose.

Qsl on Ale. I have a dedicated XP laptop for setup for Ale only. Use a standard mechanical hard drive on the base. Clone that to an SSD (solid state drive) when I do mobile Ale due to all the vehicle mechanical vibration can be damaging to a standard mechanical hard drive.

Have retired and adjusting to that change ... hi Have taken a leave of absence if you will from running a HFN Ale Pilot Station 24/7 as I have done for about a decade. Can fire it up and put it on line as needed, but not full time any more. Frees up hf operation here on the base for my usage with risking rfi damage from one rig to another .... Antenna came down in a bad thunder storm some time back, and had a damaging lightening hit. Should have antenna back up before long.

Sounds like a nice idea you have going here, and looking forward to seeing how it goes over the coming years.

73 from Bill - WD8ARZ

On 10/9/2012 8:11 AM, obrienaj wrote:
>
> Sounds like a good idea Bill. Of course, you and I also know that
> using ALE would save everyone on HF a whole lot of trouble.
> As for the PC, I bought my college bound son an I5 laptop with 6 gigs
> of RAM and a terabyte HD for $597 and it is really fast. I should have
> bought myself one, it has Windows 7.
> The laptop I am using is an I7 CPU but only 4 gigs of RAM and XP.
>
> Andy
> K3UK
>
> --- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> <mailto:Radioassistancenetwork%40yahoogroups.com>, WD8ARZ <wd8arz@...>
> wrote:
> >

> > Twenty five years ago I shared the same concept Andy with the EOC and
> > Michigan State Police where we performed similar operations.
> >
> > Tri
>
>

18. A bit more on RAN nets and frequency monitoring

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 12:51:56 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 18 Message: 18

My idea around the 8-8-12 concept is (in my mind) similar to the rolling net idea mentioned in other recent emails. If someone in California calls up the RAN at 8PM Pacific time, others east of CA could still join in. So from 8AM Eastern to 11AM Eastern, 8PM Eastern to 11PM Eastern and Midnight Eastern to 0300 Eastern time we would have RAN net call-ups around the top of the hour. RAN members would pick one of the 80M, 40M and 20M suggested calling frequencies , any that suits your need. In theory we could have several nets at the same time. That is OK, the idea is just to encourage activity and monitoring of the frequencies for possible traffic.

I did this at 8AM eastern today on 40M. No takers today. At 8.35 I decided to give another call, again no takers. However my 8.35 call-up also gave me another idea. If the frequency is clear why not give a call whenever you feel like it? Another way of encouraging activity and monitoring. Something like "CQ CQ Radio Assistance Network de ****, anyone around this morning?" . If someone that knows what RAN is, answers the call.. have a brief chat, see if others want to join in. Perhaps test an Flmsg or two. If someone calls that is not familiar with RAN, provide them with some info. I would not suggest "hogging" the frequency, take breaks for others . Support other nets on the frequency by joining that net or being silent during their net activities.

Andy K3UK

19. how to configure the installation of XP legacy software to 7

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-09 19:07:54 UTC
From: Marcus
Topic: 19 Message: 19

Dear OM Bill WD8ARZ,

Please do post here when you get around to it, I surely would appreciate your advice on how to
configure the installation of XP legacy software to 7.

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

20. RAN training

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-10 00:58:16 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 20 Message: 20

The comments I have received so far have been generally quite encouraging. A few comments have been about the casual aspects of the group and some have expressed concern that the casual aspect may get translated in to the attitude about nets. I understand this concern. I would not want our operations to be so rigid that a rookie is afraid to check in (I waited weeks before sending my first MARS traffic because I was scared I would get yelled at). I also recall getting chastised as a new ham when I gave info to a Skywarn net without the requisite language for describing wind velocity! However, I agree that we need to build skills that are effective in passing traffic or assisting in communications during emergency situations. My net running skills are based on years as an NTS NCS and also participation in MARS and and ARES nets. My digital net skills are based on the influence of Dave and Harry at PA NBEMS , I think they have set the standard for how digital nets should be run. So, in addition to a casual , supportive, approach to our goals... I do want to see some skill building. I don't want to the one to decide everything, so I am open to ideas about how we can build on-air skills . I have already co-opted Dave's Sunday net and Charlie N2NOVs Saturday net by cheekily picking their net's frequency as our base calling frequencies. Maybe we can pick a time where there is actually a formal RAN net too. Thoughts ?

Andy K3UK

21. calling CQ on 5403.5 USB from Little Rock, AR

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-10 01:10:49 UTC
From: Marcus
Topic: 21 Message: 21

```
CQ CQ HF Radio Assistance Network KD0JKM
5403.5 USB
QTH: Little Rock, AR
Grid EM34us

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

---
http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance Network voice
frequencies with Audio Mute:
http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
http://hflink.com/emcomm/
http://hfpack.com/air/
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
SELCALL ID 3455
---
```

22. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] calling CQ on 5403.5 USB from Little Rock, AR

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-10 02:10:30 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 21 Message: 22

Sorry I missed you
Andy K3UK

On Tue, Oct 9, 2012 at 9:10 PM, Marcus <kd0jkm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> CQ CQ HF Radio Assistance Network KD0JKM
> 5403.5 USB
> QTH: Little Rock, AR
> Grid EM34us
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>
> ---
> http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
> Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance
> Network voice frequencies with Audio Mute:
> http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
> http://hflink.com/emcomm/
> http://hfpack.com/air/
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
> SELCALL ID 3455
> ---
>
>
>

23. Geiger Counter Mobile

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-10 18:02:22 UTC
From: WD8ARZ
Topic: 5 Message: 23

Now here is an assistance to an emergency group that they might not expect, but could very well need:

Am mobile from Indiana to Tennessee posting an Inspector Alert Geiger Counter counts per minute (CPM) to a web site as we travel.

Go to www.radiationnetwork.com site for the map. I am the yellow circle with an arrow pointing in my direction of travel.

Click on the upper right tab of that window for the Map For The Day. There you will see my trail from beginning to realtime current location.

73 from Bill - WD8ARZ - Posted while mobile

24. Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-13 15:55:55 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 24 Message: 24

As we still trying to create interest in this concept and develop an active membership, I thought perhaps narrowing down frequencies that we monitor , and times we put out out a general call, might be useful. So I am suggesting that we continue to monitor 7.0725 USB, 1500 Hz waterfall center and 14065 USB 1500 Hz waterfall . However, I am suggesting that we place general calls on the 40M frequency at the top of the hour and on 20M at the bottom of the hour (30 minutes past). This will just make monitoring a little easier. The general calls I am talking about would be along the lines of "This is K3UK with the Radio Assistance Network monitoring, any one on frequency ?" My concept is that no designated station would make such a call, ANY station that wishes can make the call and other RAN members may respond . I also envisage a situation where a station might make such a general call at the bottom of the hour and another station do the same a minute or two later. Again, if a spontaneous net breaks out, I would encourage RAN members to sue their training and settle in to a rotation and net procedure that is suited to the situation.

Thoughts ?

The suggested 80M and 60M monitoring frequencies should perhaps be moved in to the background for the moment, pending further discussion about our new service.

By the way, I saw someone mention on the NBEMS group that our Radio Assistance Network should NOT be viewed as a duplication of ARES. It never occurred to me that it would replace ARES/RACES or other groups. The RAN idea is for a network that is there when needed , one that supplements any other group. I do not intend us to compete with ARES, we couldn't if we tried!

Andy K3UK

25. Re: Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-14 05:07:59 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 24 Message: 25

Dear OM Alex, dear All,

I understand and share your logic of narrowing down frequencies, as it would otherwise imply that you/ we want to emulate the HFLink ALE network http://hflink.com on a manual basis. I agree that it's a good idea to narrow down the frequency list.

My suggestion would be to also stick with one 60m channel (primarily for voice), apart from one (or two) data frequencies on other bands (the ones you proposed). That way those that feel more inclined to monitor voice, can do just that - and those that want to monitor data can be happy as well. Doing away with the only proposed voice channel potentially excludes a large group of HAMs.

Why 5403.5 kHz USB voice? (Data certainly possible as well http://hflink.com/60meters/#USA) The MMSN http://mmsn.org already has a steady 14MHz voice net going, so no need to compete for voice on 20m, which is certainly a great band to reach far away places. 60m is however great for NVIS coverage. Imagine - all the US being covered by an NVIS voice (and CW and data) monitoring net, you reach every hiker and camper in every valley. Neat!
This would also nicely complement current suggested voice frequency monitoring by HFLink http://hflink.com/channels/ and HFPack http://hfpack.com/air/ operators.

Thus my petition to stick with the 60m frequency for voice. Some might even be interested to monitor it for data. Your proposal with the Radio Assistance Network and 5403.5 kHz USB would enable US wide NVIS coverage. I am all for it.

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

---
http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink and HFPack frequencies:
http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
http://hflink.com/emcomm/
http://hfpack.com/air/
SELCALL ID 3455

26. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-14 08:54:53 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 24 Message: 26

Yes, 60M is a good frequency range and I have operated digital there with good success. I'll add that to my two frequencies to monitor and update the blurb on the web page.
Thanks.

Andy

On Sun, Oct 14, 2012 at 1:07 AM, Marcus KD0JKM <kd0jkm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Dear OM Alex, dear All,
>
> I understand and share your logic of narrowing down frequencies, as it
> would otherwise imply that you/ we want to emulate the HFLink ALE network
> http://hflink.com on a manual basis. I agree that it's a good idea to
> narrow down the frequency list.
>
> My suggestion would be to also stick with one 60m channel (primarily for
> voice), apart from one (or two) data frequencies on other bands (the ones
> you proposed). That way those that feel more inclined to monitor voice, can
> do just that - and those that want to monitor data can be happy as well.
> Doing away with the only proposed voice channel potentially excludes a
> large group of HAMs.
>
> Why 5403.5 kHz USB voice? (Data certainly possible as well
> http://hflink.com/60meters/#USA) The MMSN http://mmsn.org already has a
> steady 14MHz voice net going, so no need to compete for voice on 20m, which
> is certainly a great band to reach far away places. 60m is however great
> for NVIS coverage. Imagine - all the US being covered by an NVIS voice (and
> CW and data) monitoring net, you reach every hiker and camper in every
> valley. Neat!
> This would also nicely complement current suggested voice frequency
> monitoring by HFLink http://hflink.com/channels/ and HFPack
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> Thus my petition to stick with the 60m frequency for voice. Some might
> even be interested to monitor it for data. Your proposal with the Radio
> Assistance Network and 5403.5 kHz USB would enable US wide NVIS coverage. I
> am all for it.
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>

> ---
> http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
> Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink and HFPack frequencies:
> http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
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> SELCALL ID 3455
>
>
>

27. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-14 21:33:35 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 24 Message: 27

Andy,

I like the idea of focusing on 20m and 40m as the primary bands with the specific spots.

I'd also like to explore the idea of a RAN SitRep bulletin on a specific day/time/band, where we might rotate through a list of bulletin volunteers who could put out a short message of general interest to any amateur radio stations who might want to just try to monitor and receive.

As to some of the comments on RAN, suggesting that this would be a splinter group that would pull away from ARES/RACES/ACS groups... my question is, what are we pulling away from? There are only a handful of ARES/RACES/ACS nets throughout the country that are mainly focused on local and regional comms. ARES/RACES/ACS/NTS groups have not stepped up to the plate to do any kind of national, continental or intercon digi nets, so what in the world are they suggesting we're splintering from?

I think there's a lot of folks out there that think ARES/RACES/NTS are some sort of overriding authority and we should all just sit back and wait for them to take charge. I keep going back to the regional mobile nets (ECARS, MIDCARS and SouthCARS) as well as the 20m Maritime Mobile and Intercon nets, which had to have started from scratch at some point in time where some folks got together and decided to start a service. I'm sure it took them many years to get things going, but they did, and they now provide great services to the amateur radio community.

I just don't understand the resistance to RAN. Thankfully, it's only a minority that are resisting, for whatever reasons they may have.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2012 11:55 AM
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.

As we still trying to create interest in this concept and develop an active membership, I thought perhaps narrowing down frequencies that we monitor , and times we put out out a general call, might be useful. So I am suggesting that we continue to monitor 7.0725 USB, 1500 Hz waterfall center and 14065 USB 1500 Hz waterfall . However, I am suggesting that we place general calls on the 40M frequency at the top of the hour and on 20M at the bottom of the hour (30 minutes past). This will just make monitoring a little easier. The general calls I am talking about would be along the lines of "This is K3UK with the Radio Assistance Network monitoring, any one on frequency ?" My concept is that no designated station would make such a call, ANY station that wishes can make the call and other RAN members may respond . I also envisage a situation where a station might make such a general call at the bottom of the hour and another station
do the same a minute or two later. Again, if a spontaneous net breaks out, I would

encourage RAN members to sue their training and settle in to a rotation and net procedure that is suited to the situation.

Thoughts ?

The suggested 80M and 60M monitoring
frequencies should perhaps be moved in to the background for the
moment, pending further discussion about our new service.

By the way, I saw someone mention on the NBEMS group that our Radio Assistance Network should NOT be viewed as a duplication of ARES. It never occurred to me that it would replace ARES/RACES or other groups. The RAN idea is for a network that is there when needed , one that supplements any other group. I do not intend us to compete with ARES, we couldn't if we tried!

Andy K3UK

28. 5403.5 Net Preamble

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-16 03:49:41 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 28 Message: 28

All,

I have been wondering about a Pre-amble for the Net since many operators are used to "Net Procedure". I also believe that all Net participants may need to be reminded of the operating rules when operating on 5403.5 kHz, as we are only secondary users on that frequency. I frequently stubble over a rag chew on 60m that is so tightly knit, that no other users have a chance to even get their own call sign in.

I thus propose the following (be it in voice, CW or other digital mode):

Proposed HF Radio Assistance Network Preample for 5403.5 kHz

Preparation
Before starting to transmit, listen on the channel for at least 3 minutes.

Is this frequency in use, (Your Call Sign)?
This is (Your Call Sign) preparing to open the HF Radio Assistance Network on or about 8:00 PM Local time (or at any time that you have time to monitor).

Preamble

QST QST QST
Calling the HF Radio Assistance Network.
This is a directed net. Please do not transmit unless invited to do so by Net Control.
Please use your call sign and first name at all times.
(Pause 5 seconds)

Your net control station today is (your Call Sign). My name is (Your Name), and I am in (Your Location, State).
(Pause 5 seconds)

Stations checking in are asked to remain on frequency until any traffic has been assigned and net business has been completed. If you need to leave early or break into the net at any time, please announce “BREAK BREAK” and your call sign, and you will be recognized.
(Pause 5 seconds)

The purpose of this net is to:
Train members to be skilled radio communicators.
Provide and foster voice and digital Emergency Communication skills.
Offer services to agencies involved in humanitarian relief efforts.
...
(Pause 5 seconds)

This net meets daily on or around 8:00 PM local time on this frequency and at any time that a Net Member is available to monitor, with a frequency of 5403.5 kHz.
(Pause 5 seconds)

All operators are reminded that Amateur radio is a "secondary user" in this band, and must not cause harmful interference to other services. Amateur Radio Service must accept interruption from primary, other services, and other nations services.
(Pause 5 seconds)

This is an open net! We will check in all members and all licensed amateurs are invited to check in at any time, but remember to leave a pause of 3 seconds between each transmission.
(Pause 5 seconds)

Business

Are there any bulletins for the net, or traffic to list?
(Pause 5 seconds)

Roll Call

(ID every 10 minutes!)
I will now call member stations for tonight’s check-in. When called, please respond with your call sign. If you are using emergency power, portable or mobile please tell us.

(See roll sheet and call off the call signs. Try to go quickly.)

Are there any late or missed stations from the roll?
(Pause 5 seconds)

Are there any relays to Net Control into the net which were not heard by Net Control?
(Pause 5 seconds)

Close
Thank you all for your participation tonight, and your other efforts to make this a successful and efficient net.
(Pause 5 seconds)

This net will now return to monitoring mode. All Amateur Radio Operators are reminded that we are secondary users on this frequency. All licensed Amateur Radio Operators are invited to monitor this frequency for Emergency Traffic or any of the other HF Radio Assistance Network frequencies, especially when they are otherwise not operating their stations.
(Pause 5 seconds)

This is (Your Call Sign), turning the HF Radio Assistance 5403.5 kHz Net into monitoring mode at (time).

73 to all.

Suggestions and edits welcome.

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance Network voice frequencies with Audio Mute:
http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
http://hflink.com/emcomm/

http://hfpack.com/air/
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
SELCALL ID 3455
---

29. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] 5403.5 Net Preamble

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-16 11:02:22 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 28 Message: 29

Great work, thanks for the ideas.

Andy K3UK

On Mon, Oct 15, 2012 at 11:49 PM, Marcus KD0JKM <kd0jkm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> All,
>
> I have been wondering about a Pre-amble for the Net since many operators
> are used to "Net Procedure". I also believe that all Net participants may
> need to be reminded of the operating rules when operating on 5403.5 kHz, as
> we are only secondary users on that frequency. I frequently stubble over a
> rag chew on 60m that is so tightly knit, that no other users have a chance
> to even get their own call sign in.
>
> I thus propose the following (be it in voice, CW or other digital mode):
>
> ---
> Proposed HF Radio Assistance Network Preample for 5403.5 kHz
>
> Preparation
> *Before starting to transmit, listen on the channel for at least 3
> minutes.*
> **
> *Is this frequency in use, (Your Call Sign)?*
> This is *(Your Call Sign)* preparing to open the HF Radio Assistance
> Network on or about 8:00 PM Local time (or at any time that you have time
> to monitor).
>
> Preamble
> QST QST QST
> Calling the HF Radio Assistance Network.
> This is a directed net. Please do not transmit unless invited to do so by
> Net Control. Please use your call sign and first name at all times.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> Your net control station today is *(your Call Sign)*. My name is *(Your
> Name)*, and I am in *(Your Location, State)*.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
> **
> Stations checking in are asked to remain on frequency until any traffic
> has been assigned and net business has been completed. If you need to leave
> early or break into the net at any time, please announce “BREAK BREAK” and

> your call sign, and you will be recognized.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> The purpose of this net is to:
>
> - Train members to be skilled radio communicators.
> - Provide and foster voice and digital Emergency Communication skills.
> - Offer services to agencies involved in humanitarian relief efforts.
> - ...
>
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> This net meets daily on or around 8:00 PM local time on this frequency and
> at any time that a Net Member is available to monitor, with a frequency of
> 5403.5 kHz.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
> **
> All operators are reminded that Amateur radio is a "secondary user" in
> this band, and must not cause harmful interference to other services.
> Amateur Radio Service must accept interruption from primary, other
> services, and other nations services.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> This is an open net! We will check in all members and all licensed
> amateurs are invited to check in at any time, but remember to leave a pause
> of 3 seconds between each transmission.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
>
> Business
> Are there any bulletins for the net, or traffic to list?
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> Roll Call
>
> *(ID every 10 minutes!*)
> I will now call member stations for tonight’s check-in. When called,
> please respond with your call sign. If you are using emergency power,
> portable or mobile please tell us.
>
> *(See roll sheet and call off the call signs. Try to go quickly.)*
>
>
> Are there any late or missed stations from the roll?
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> Are there any relays to Net Control into the net which were not heard by
> Net Control?
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>

> Close
> Thank you all for your participation tonight, and your other efforts to
> make this a successful and efficient net.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> This net will now return to monitoring mode. All Amateur Radio Operators
> are reminded that we are secondary users on this frequency. All licensed
> Amateur Radio Operators are invited to monitor this frequency for Emergency
> Traffic or any of the other HF Radio Assistance Network frequencies,
> especially when they are otherwise not operating their stations.
> * (Pause 5 seconds)*
>
> This is *(Your Call Sign)*, turning the HF Radio Assistance 5403.5 kHz
> Net into monitoring mode at *(time)*.
>
> 73 to all.
>
> ---
>
>
> Suggestions and edits welcome.
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>
> ---
> Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance
> Network voice frequencies with Audio Mute:
> http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
> http://hflink.com/emcomm/
> http://hfpack.com/air/
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
> http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
> SELCALL ID 3455
> ---
>
>
>

30. Re: 5403.5 Net Preamble

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-17 01:49:14 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 28 Message: 30

Hi Andy,

Thanks for your feedback! I've changed the "info" in the Preamble, took text from your website (as shown below) and added info . I transmitted at 20:27h CST with 0 check ins and I am giving this feedback to show that there are HAMs out there bringing this net alive.

I ran late since I wanted to try out net-6.0.04 (from the FLDIGI suite for OSX) but was unable to enter any call signs. I read up on the Help webpage, but was none the wiser. Would appreciate help on getting it to work!

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

REVISED Preamble:

Proposed HF Radio Assistance Network Preample for 5403.5 kHz

Preparation
Before starting to transmit, listen on the channel for at least 3 minutes.

Is this frequency in use, (Your Call Sign)?
This is (Your Call Sign) preparing to open the HF Radio Assistance Network on or about 8:00 PM Local time (or at any time that you have time to monitor).

Preamble
QST QST QST
Calling the HF Radio Assistance Network.
This is a directed net. Please do not transmit unless invited to do so by Net Control.
Please use your call sign and first name at all times.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

Your net control station today is (your Call Sign). My name is (Your Name), and I am in (Your Location, State).
    (Pause 5 seconds)

Stations checking in are asked to remain on frequency until any traffic has been assigned and net business has been completed. If you need to leave early or break into the net at any time, please announce "BREAK BREAK" and your call sign, and you will be recognized.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

The HF Radio Assistance Network is a network of amateur radio and SWLs that monitor the high frequency bands for emergency or urgent communication needs, and render assistance where needed. Members of the The HF Radio Assistance Network also participate in practice drills and casual experimentation testing applications, testing propagation, and testing effective message handling methods.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

The HF Radio Assistance Network has no formal command structure, no appointed officers, no election politics. Membership is free. The operations of the The HF Radio Assistance Network are based on suggestions of the members and rely entirely on their operating practices.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

(Give additional info from:
http://www.obriensweb.com/radioassistancenetwork.html
as desired.)

This net meets daily on or around 8:00AM, 8:00 PM and 12 midnight local time or at any time that a Net Member is available to monitor. It meets on this frequency by voice, CW or Digital modes, as well as via Digital modes on the 20m and 40m bands on 14065 kHz USB and 7043 kHz USB.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

All operators are reminded that Amateur radio is a "secondary user" in this band, and must not cause harmful interference to other services. Amateur Radio Service must accept interruption from primary, other services, and other nations services.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

This is an open net! We will check in all members and all licensed amateurs are invited to check in at any time, but remember to leave a pause of 3 seconds between each transmission.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

Business
Are there any bulletins for the net, or traffic to list?
    (Pause 5 seconds)

Roll Call

(ID every 10 minutes!)
I will now call member stations for tonight's check-in. When called, please respond with your call sign. If you are using emergency power, portable or mobile please tell us.

(See roll sheet and call off the call signs. Try to go quickly.)

Are there any late or missed stations from the roll?
    (Pause 5 seconds)

Are there any relays to Net Control into the net which were not heard by Net Control?
    (Pause 5 seconds)

Close
Thank you all for your participation tonight, and your other efforts to make this a successful and efficient net.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

This net will now return to monitoring mode and I turn the frequency back to general use. All licensed Amateur Radio Operators are invited to monitor this frequency for Emergency Traffic, especially when they are otherwise not operating their stations.
    (Pause 5 seconds)

This is (Your Call Sign), closing the HF Radio Assistance 5403.5 kHz Net at (time).

73 to all.

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
>
> Great work, thanks for the ideas.
>
> Andy K3UK
>
> On Mon, Oct 15, 2012 at 11:49 PM, Marcus KD0JKM <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
> ...

31. Net meeting time

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-17 01:58:51 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 31 Message: 31

Andy, All,

I have great problems to make the 8-8-12 schedule. At 8am I am at work. 8pm I can usually make. Midnight I have to sleep to get out at 5am, so out of the question for me, but might be different for others.

Would it be a thought to concentrate on 8pm for now and leave additional, random meeting times open? Or maybe the Netcontroller who runs the (spontaneous) Net, says in his preamble something like:

"The net run by this Netcontroller meets daily on or around XX:XX hours local time. Additional times are made available by any licensed Amateur Radio Operator who is able to operate at his availability."

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

32. Re: Net meeting time

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-21 15:34:10 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 31 Message: 32

Sorry, been out of action the last few days due to a death in the family. I agree , 8PM makes a better time for now and then perhaps do the bottom/top of the hour thing I mentioned last week for 40 and 20M. I'll make a few changes on the web page later today.

Andy K3UK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "kd0jkm" <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
>
> Andy, All,
>
> I have great problems to make the 8-8-12 schedule. At 8am I am at work. 8pm I can usually make. Midnight I have to sleep to get out at 5am, so out of the question for me, but might be different for others.
>
> Would it be a thought to concentrate on 8pm for now and leave additional, random meeting times open? Or maybe the Netcontroller who runs the (spontaneous) Net, says in his preamble something like:
>
> "The net run by this Netcontroller meets daily on or around XX:XX hours local time. Additional times are made available by any licensed Amateur Radio Operator who is able to operate at his availability."
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>

33. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Net meeting time

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-21 17:32:35 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 31 Message: 33

Marcus, are you suggesting 60M for the 8PM slot of 40M? 60M is intriguing to me and is good for a lot of things but I am not sure how many people have 60M capability.

Andy K3UK

On Sun, Oct 21, 2012 at 11:34 AM, obrienaj <k3ukandy@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
>
> Sorry, been out of action the last few days due to a death in the family.
> I agree , 8PM makes a better time for now and then perhaps do the
> bottom/top of the hour thing I mentioned last week for 40 and 20M. I'll
> make a few changes on the web page later today.
>
> Andy K3UK
>
>
> --- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "kd0jkm" <kd0jkm@...>
> wrote:
> >
> > Andy, All,
> >
> > I have great problems to make the 8-8-12 schedule. At 8am I am at work.
> 8pm I can usually make. Midnight I have to sleep to get out at 5am, so out
> of the question for me, but might be different for others.
> >
> > Would it be a thought to concentrate on 8pm for now and leave
> additional, random meeting times open? Or maybe the Netcontroller who runs
> the (spontaneous) Net, says in his preamble something like:
> >
> > "The net run by this Netcontroller meets daily on or around XX:XX hours
> local time. Additional times are made available by any licensed Amateur
> Radio Operator who is able to operate at his availability."
> >
> > vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
> >
>
>
>

34. Sit Reps ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-21 19:17:46 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 24 Message: 34

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:
>
> Andy,
>
> I like the idea of focusing on 20m and 40m as the primary bands with the specific spots.
>
> I'd also like to explore the idea of a RAN SitRep bulletin on a specific day/time/band, where we might rotate through a list of bulletin volunteers who could put out a short message of general interest to any amateur radio stations who might want to just try to monitor and receive.
>

This is an interesting idea. In some way it may be an alternative to a net where we check in a say "hi the weather here is ...". It could be especially useful during the winter months AND a good training exercise.

Anyone else have comments on this ?

Andy

35. New file uploaded to Radioassistancenetwork

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-21 19:19:19 UTC
From: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 35 Message: 35

```
Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the Radioassistancenetwork
group.

File : /ran60m.html
Uploaded by : obrienaj <k3ukandy@...>
Description : Suggested 60M net script (voice)

You can access this file at the URL:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/files/ran60m.html

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/web/index.html
Regards,

obrienaj <k3ukandy@...>
```

36. Re: Sit Reps ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-21 20:58:28 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 24 Message: 36

re: SitRep bulletin. That's more interesting to me than yet another net checkin. It probably makes it easier to have regional transmissions.

What about doing the same with a digital mode. Digital allows us to set up our receiver, eat dinner etc., and come back later and read the bulletin.

Listeners could provide signal reports at the end of the bulletin either on air or by email. Using email, we could provide signal reports for everyone we heard. To avoid drowning us in email, set up another Yahoo group just for these signal reports.

The hard part will be coming up with: "short messages of general interest."

Irv W4IWK

> > I'd also like to explore the idea of a RAN SitRep bulletin on a specific day/time/band, where we might rotate through a list of bulletin volunteers who could put out a short message of general interest to any amateur radio stations who might want to just try to monitor and receive.
> >
>
> This is an interesting idea. In some way it may be an alternative to a net where we check in a say "hi the weather here is ...". It could be especially useful during the winter months AND a good training exercise.
>
> Anyone else have comments on this ?
>
> Andy
>

37. RAN tweaks

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-21 22:08:10 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 37 Message: 37

I tweaked a few things based on suggestions from members of this group, the web page contains a few revisions.
http://www.obriensweb.com/radioassistancenetwork.html

I dropped the 8-8-12 concept in favor of the 8PM idea (see web page for explanation). I did however, add the concept of calling throughout the day in designated 10 minute windows that differ for 40M, 60M and 20M. Again, see the details at http://www.obriensweb.com/radioassistancenetwork.html.

Comments welcome.

Andy K3UK

38. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Sit Reps ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-22 02:09:47 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 24 Message: 38

Here's my thought... to start, a weekly set UTC schedule one or twice on a given day. Maybe 1600z and 0000z every Thursday. Rotate thru different bulletin tx stations. Transmit a short plain text bulletin with Olivia or maybe even Contestia, then follow with a more detailed bulletin with FLAMP and a faster mode.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: w4iwk <w4iwk@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, October 21, 2012 4:58 PM
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Sit Reps ?

re: SitRep bulletin. That's more interesting to me than yet another net checkin. It probably makes it easier to have regional transmissions.

What about doing the same with a digital mode. Digital allows us to set up our receiver, eat dinner etc., and come back later and read the bulletin.

Listeners could provide signal reports at the end of the bulletin either on air or by email. Using email, we could provide signal reports for everyone we heard. To avoid drowning us in email, set up another Yahoo group just for these signal reports.

The hard part will be coming up with: "short messages of general interest."

Irv W4IWK

> > I'd also like to explore the idea of a RAN SitRep bulletin on a specific day/time/band, where we might rotate through a list of bulletin volunteers who could put out a short message of general interest to any amateur radio stations who might want to just try to monitor and receive.
> >
>
> This is an interesting idea. In some way it may be an alternative to a net where we check in a say "hi the weather here is ...". It could be especially useful during the winter months AND a good training exercise.
>
> Anyone else have comments on this ?
>
> Andy
>

39. Re: Net meeting time

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-22 18:27:44 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 31 Message: 39

Dear Andy,

I believe your plan to monitor 20m, 40m and 60m is fantastic. Did not wish to suggest any different, please excuse if my prior emails were ambiguous.
I think your idea of concentrating on certain bands, but still leaving the field somewhat open to personal preferences and habits of operating, is a great way to go.

I personal like monitoring 60m and have been on air diligently on 60m at 8pm and doing the announcement. As of yet I regret no responses heard - but that's how it is with anything new :)

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance Network voice frequencies with Audio Mute:
http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
http://hflink.com/emcomm/
http://hfpack.com/air/
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
SELCALL ID 3455
---

40. 60 Mtr Net Preamble

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-23 03:04:09 UTC
From: steve.callaway
Topic: 40 Message: 40

If I may make a suggestion, could the point in the preamble where the roll is to be called be linked to a central updated roll call list?

Thanks;
Steve
KE5OHX

41. Re: Net meeting time

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-24 02:45:29 UTC
From: n8gbu
Topic: 31 Message: 41

One thing you may consider is using Echolink with propagation up and down or for the licensed who may not have the resources yet to get On the air. I think 20 meters would be the best bet however for a net. There are a lot of nets up on 20 meters especially on Sunday. Just my thoughts....Mike/N8GBU

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, Marcus KD0JKM <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
>
> Dear Andy,
>
> I believe your plan to monitor 20m, 40m and 60m is fantastic. Did not wish to suggest any different, please excuse if my prior emails were ambiguous.
> I think your idea of concentrating on certain bands, but still leaving the field somewhat open to personal preferences and habits of operating, is a great way to go.
>
> I personal like monitoring 60m and have been on air diligently on 60m at 8pm and doing the announcement. As of yet I regret no responses heard - but that's how it is with anything new :)
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>
> ---
> Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance Network voice frequencies with Audio Mute:
> http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
> http://hflink.com/emcomm/
> http://hfpack.com/air/
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
> http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
> SELCALL ID 3455
> ---
>

42. Re: Net meeting time

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-24 02:54:33 UTC
From: n8gbu
Topic: 31 Message: 42

Good monitoring right now I'm kind of hanging around the hurricane net right now. I know there are some H.F. Maritime and coast guard freq's to monitor I just can't remember right now b ut will pass them along as I get them!
--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, Marcus KD0JKM <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
>
> Dear Andy,
>
> I believe your plan to monitor 20m, 40m and 60m is fantastic. Did not wish to suggest any different, please excuse if my prior emails were ambiguous.
> I think your idea of concentrating on certain bands, but still leaving the field somewhat open to personal preferences and habits of operating, is a great way to go.
>
> I personal like monitoring 60m and have been on air diligently on 60m at 8pm and doing the announcement. As of yet I regret no responses heard - but that's how it is with anything new :)
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>
> ---
> Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance Network voice frequencies with Audio Mute:
> http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
> http://hflink.com/emcomm/
> http://hfpack.com/air/
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
> http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
> SELCALL ID 3455
> ---
>

43. Re: 60 Mtr Net Preamble

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-24 22:46:43 UTC
From: Marcus
Topic: 40 Message: 43

Steve KE5OHX,

Love your suggestion, but don't know how to implement. Any advice on that?

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

Mon Oct 22, 2012 8:04 pm (PDT) . Posted by:"steve.callaway" steve.callawayIf I may make a suggestion, could the point in the preamble where the roll is to be called be linked to a central updated roll call list?

Thanks;
Steve
KE5OHX

44. Re: 60 Mtr Net Preamble

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-25 02:22:31 UTC
From: Marcus
Topic: 40 Message: 44

Steve KE5OHX,

Love your suggestion, but don't know how to implement. Any advice on that?

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

Mon Oct 22, 2012 8:04 pm (PDT) . Posted by:"steve.callaway" steve.callawayIf I may make a suggestion, could the point in the preamble where the roll is to be called be linked to a central updated roll call list?

Thanks;
Steve
KE5OHX

45. RE: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: 60 Mtr Net Preamble

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-25 03:24:59 UTC
From: Steve Callaway
Topic: 40 Message: 45

What I am thinking is a "radio button" at the point in the preamble where the member list would be needed that would bring up a current/maintained list. The net control could then use the list to call roll and or check in responding stations. The list would need to be moderated but the net control could add new check in's when they come up in a buffered area so the moderator/ moderator's could review and add them to the permanent list. This could be applied anywhere on the preamble that "more/current" information could be required ie: announcements, poi, etc. Just a thought, may be more trouble than it is worth, don't know personally, I'm not a programmer.

73 de
Steve
KE5OHX
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
From: kd0jkm@gmail.com
Date: Wed, 24 Oct 2012 21:22:31 -0500
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: 60 Mtr Net Preamble

Steve KE5OHX,
Love your suggestion, but don't know how to implement. Any advice on that?
vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

Mon Oct 22, 2012 8:04 pm (PDT) . Posted by:"steve.callaway" steve.callawayIf I may make a suggestion, could the point in the preamble where the roll is to be called be linked to a central updated roll call list?

Thanks;
Steve
KE5OHX

46. Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-25 03:20:15 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 40 Message: 46

I have the impression that this is about getting away from all of the underwear checks, pissing contests about who is more official, obsessive over-organization, grant-grubbing and other anal-retentive nonsense that is widely associated with outfits like ARES, RACES, and so on.

Did I get that right?

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

47. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-25 23:15:33 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 40 Message: 47

Among other things, yes. Are we drifing?

Andy K3UK

On Wed, Oct 24, 2012 at 11:20 PM, Charles Brabham <n5pvl@...>wrote:

> **
>
>
> **
> I have the impression that this is about getting away from all of the
> underwear checks, pissing contests about who is more official, obsessive
> over-organization, grant-grubbing and other anal-retentive nonsense that is
> widely associated with outfits like ARES, RACES, and so on.
>
> Did I get that right?
>
> 73 DE Charles, N5PVL
>
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>

48. Re: Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 00:46:46 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 40 Message: 48

Charles, N5PVL,

Please allow me to suggest that we refrain from any profane or derogatory language, thus completely abide by the Amateur Radio Code http://www.slsrc.org/amateurs-code.html , as to truly differentiating ourselves from said persons.

Thoughts about a Preamble were to have a nice QST text, so that others may learn more about the HF Radio Assistance Network and be encouraged to contact and participate in it, without having to resort to finding more info about it in the internet. Suggestions would be truly welcome on how best to perform this, especially as the Net is still very scarcely populated - haven't heard anyone of you key up on 60m, which is likely a combination of my personal available airtime, antenna situation, propagation, you name it.

Regarding a member list for check-ins: might be nice to keep track of us all and our operating habits. May also demonstrate to some that we do operate the Net. Those of us who have fun in building something like this - why not let them? May keep up the morale while participation is still limited.
Why meet it with negative criticism? Constructive alternative suggestions in which way we may announce this Net and get others interested would be more helpful. Why not go ahead with a positive example and show that this is a hobby - as well as a group - which is open for all?

As always - everything is possible - but there is certainly no "requirement".

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

Monitoring Global Center of Activity, HFLink, HFPack, HF Radio Assistance Network voice frequencies with Audio Mute:
http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
http://hflink.com/emcomm/
http://hfpack.com/air/
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
SELCALL ID 3455
---

49. RE: [Radioassistancenetwork] Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 00:59:10 UTC
From: Paul Cavnar
Topic: 40 Message: 49

Charles and all -

I am not sure what prompted the statement below unless I have completely missed something. I do see good discussion concerning how we are going to present ourselves on the air. Unless we have something that is 'unifying' we can present, then we're little more than a bunch of hams doing digital comms who want to be part of the EmComm picture. Unless there is some sort of 'organization' how are we going to sell our services to anyone even as a back-up if and when things get overwhelming for the mainstream groups i.e. ARES/RACES.

We need an 'anchor point' at the very least, on the air where someone, somewhere is "out there" listening and a place where bulletins can be sent as needed on a regular basis during emergencies. Hurricane Sandy is a great time to start and it in coming in the back door of our eastern seaboard now.

I personally do not feel that 60m is going to be a good choice for us. There is no room to 'move over' if it gets busy and it will be, almost at the first sign of trouble. Besides, I don't believe enough RAN people have that capability right now. I would recommend the 30m band as a good compromise for propagation. But, time of day and other factors will determine if 20m or 40m would be a good choice.

So, let's decide on a band and frequency that is an 'anchor point' on the air for RAN people to monitor (I hate that word) or listen for bulletins and where they can check in if needed when they are going to be available to help. Once the words gets around that we're out there listening, then we can go wherever is needed to handle traffic but, let's try and have that single point of contact on the air running.

Paul - AE7VT

-----Original Message-----
From: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
[mailto:Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Charles Brabham
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 8:20 PM
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Mission Drift ?

I have the impression that this is about getting away from all of the underwear checks, pissing contests about who is more official, obsessive over-organization, grant-grubbing and other anal-retentive nonsense that is widely associated with outfits like ARES, RACES, and so on.

Did I get that right?

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

50. Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 01:36:47 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 50 Message: 50

First, my apology...I have not got home from work early enough to be around for any 8PM activity the last week or so. I do monitor 7072.5 most evenings though, a little 14065 and 60M too, I have dozed off on the couch a few times though.. tut tut. I guess I should point out that one of the RAN concepts is "when you have time" versus a formal requirement.

I acknowledge that hurricane monitoring is well established by other groups, mostly voice nets. However, I wonder if the approaching tropical storm/Nor Easter combo presents an opportunity for the sit-rep idea that Dave mentioned last week ? It might be a way to jump start our digital activity on 40M or 20M. Any thoughts about sit-reps as the storm approaches the east coast? It might also be an event that we could use to publicize our group to a wider group of hams. I have posted to the NBEMS and Digitalradio groups ONLY so far, but maybe we can drop some email in to wider Yahoogroups and QRZ forum , perhaps attract a few curious hams. I'm also still intrigued about our frequencies and sit-reps being used by ARES/RACES groups that have notoriously not announced their activation status in any formal way , at least outside of their primary service area. One of my hopes would be that ARES/ARCES ECs would pop up on frequency just to let us know where things stand in their area and when they formally activate.

Andy K3UK

51. using RSID to help promote activity spotting

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 02:04:00 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 51 Message: 51

A reminder that the use of RSID upon your transmit will help populate places like PSK Reporter and HamSpots , this will in turn help RAN members look at activity around our monitoring frequencies. For example, here is some activity for 500/8 Olivia today from hamspots. Please also use the "report" feature so that your station relays in the signals to Hamspots and PSK Reporter.

```
WD9DUI 7073.15 OLIVIA CA United States AG6EB
+
+4h KB3FXI 7073.99 OLIVIA PA United States W3IAG

+8h KD2DO 7073.97 OLIVIA NY United States W3IAG
+
+8h K3CC 7074.00 OLIVIA PA United States W3IAG
+8h KB3FXI 7073.99 OLIVIA PA United States W3IAG
+8h W3FDK 7074.00 OLIVIA MD United States W3IAG
+8h UT7ZZ 7073.08 OLIVIA Ukraine W3IAG

+8hK3CC7074.00OLIVIAPAUnited StatesW3IAG
+8hKB3FXI7073.99OLIVIAPAUnited StatesW3IAG
+8hW3FDK7074.00OLIVIAMDUnited StatesW3IAG
+8hUT7ZZ7073.08OLIVIA
UkraineW3IAG
```

52. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 04:12:57 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 50 Message: 52

I might recommend we sit this one out and monitor the ARES/RACES/ACS channels. This could wind up being a very major event where we'd be better served supporting the established groups and not rolling out any major announcements.

Having said that, I don't see anything wrong with putting out a few sitreps if ARES/RACES/ACS are not activated.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:36 PM
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?

First, my apology...I have not got home from work early enough to be around for any 8PM activity the last week or so. I do monitor 7072.5 most evenings though, a little 14065 and 60M too, I have dozed off on the couch a few times though.. tut tut. I guess I should point out that one of the RAN concepts is "when you have time" versus a formal requirement.

I acknowledge that hurricane monitoring is well established by other groups, mostly voice nets. However, I wonder if the approaching tropical storm/Nor Easter combo presents an opportunity for the sit-rep idea that Dave mentioned last week ? It might be a way to jump start our digital activity on 40M or 20M. Any thoughts about sit-reps as the storm approaches the east coast? It might also be an event that we could use to publicize our group to a wider group of hams. I have posted to the NBEMS and Digitalradio groups ONLY so far, but maybe we can drop some email in to wider Yahoogroups and QRZ forum , perhaps attract a few curious hams. I'm also still intrigued about our frequencies and sit-reps being used by ARES/RACES groups that have notoriously not announced their activation status in any formal way , at least outside of their primary service area. One of my hopes would be that ARES/ARCES ECs would pop up on frequency just to let us
know where things stand in their area and when they formally activate.

Andy K3UK

53. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 11:54:56 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 40 Message: 53

Avoiding mission drift will not come easily or naturally to us.

One of the problems with doing something in a new way - is the inertia of the old way, the old habits dragging at our necks.

If we are not very careful, RAN will - by increment - slowly but surely turn into the same kind of anal-retentive love-fest that ARES and RACES have turned into.

What we are up against here is human nature, that's how tough it is. - The natural response to an unfamiliar situation is to return to what we are familiar with. This is what we do on 'autopilot', when we relax are not deliberate about what we do.

The reality is that we will be getting lots of well-intended suggestions that will lead us to mission drift. We should have a ready method on hand for firmly but politely resisting this natural tendency.

Before we can resist mission drift though, we must first develop the ability to recognize it when it pops up.

It's not easy, but this is what will be necessary in order to succeed.

The mission statent is our anchor, here. What we consider doing should always be measured against a clear, unambiguous statement that defines and protects what is special about RAN.

If we are not ready, willing and able to see some folks' widdle feewings hurt over the process, then we might as well give up and quit now - because otherwise they will quickly turn RAN into just another anal-retentive, authoritarian emcom group lined up at the DHS trough, run by a pack of "official" types, trying to compensate for their tiny little peckers.

I like the RAN concept. - I'd like to see it take off and fly.

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

----- Original Message -----
From: Andrew O'Brien
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 6:15 PM
Subject: Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Mission Drift ?

Among other things, yes. Are we drifing?

Andy K3UK

On Wed, Oct 24, 2012 at 11:20 PM, Charles Brabham <n5pvl@...> wrote:

I have the impression that this is about getting away from all of the underwear checks, pissing contests about who is more official, obsessive over-organization, grant-grubbing and other anal-retentive nonsense that is widely associated with outfits like ARES, RACES,

and so on.

Did I get that right?

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

54. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 11:57:34 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 40 Message: 54

You can kiss my butt, I'm not in the mood for sanctimonious whiners this morning.

Pucker up, Bub!

73 DE CHarles, N5PVL

----- Original Message -----
From: Marcus KD0JKM
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 7:46 PM
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Mission Drift ?

Charles, N5PVL,

Please allow me to suggest that we refrain from any profane or derogatory language, thus completely abide by the Amateur Radio Code http://www.slsrc.org/amateurs-code.html , as to truly differentiating ourselves from said persons.

Thoughts about a Preamble were to have a nice QST text, so that others may learn more about the HF Radio Assistance Network and be encouraged to contact and participate in it, without having to resort to finding more info about it in the internet. Suggestions would be truly welcome on how best to perform this, especially as the Net is still very scarcely populated - haven't heard anyone of you key up on 60m, which is likely a combination of my personal available airtime, antenna situation, propagation, you name it.

Regarding a member list for check-ins: might be nice to keep track of us all and our operating habits. May also demonstrate to some that we do operate the Net. Those of us who have fun in building something like this - why not let them? May keep up the morale while participation is still limited.
Why meet it with negative criticism? Constructive alternative suggestions in which way we may announce this Net and get others interested would be more helpful. Why not go ahead with a positive example and show that this is a hobby - as well as a group - which is open for all?

As always - everything is possible - but there is certainly no "requirement".

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

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http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
http://hflink.com/emcomm/
http://hfpack.com/air/
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
SELCALL ID 3455

- - -

55. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 13:12:13 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 40 Message: 55

My apologies to the group, this was meant to go directly to the sanctimonious whiner.

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

----- Original Message -----
From: Charles Brabham
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:57 AM
Subject: Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Mission Drift ?

You can kiss my butt, I'm not in the mood for sanctimonious whiners this morning.

Pucker up, Bub!

73 DE CHarles, N5PVL

----- Original Message -----
From: Marcus KD0JKM
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 7:46 PM
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Mission Drift ?

Charles, N5PVL,

Please allow me to suggest that we refrain from any profane or derogatory language, thus completely abide by the Amateur Radio Code http://www.slsrc.org/amateurs-code.html , as to truly differentiating ourselves from said persons.

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Why meet it with negative criticism? Constructive alternative suggestions in which way we may announce this Net and get others interested would be more helpful. Why not go ahead with a positive example and show that this is a hobby - as well as a group - which is open for all?

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vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

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http://hfpack.com/air/
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
SELCALL ID 3455
---

56. Re: Mission Drift ?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 18:10:35 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 40 Message: 56

Well Charles N5PVL,
It's good that you made the email address mistake so that all may see the language you use.

Andy K3UK,
I request that messages are pre-screened or members removed from this list, if they don't adhere to the Amateur Code.
Language as used by N5PVL does not help the mission of RAN; and it certainly does not make him any better than the persons he is complaining about with ARES etc..

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Charles Brabham" <n5pvl@...> wrote:
>
> My apologies to the group, this was meant to go directly to the sanctimonious whiner.
>
> 73 DE Charles, N5PVL
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Charles Brabham
> To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:57 AM
> Subject: Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Mission Drift ?
>
>
>
>
> You can kiss my butt, I'm not in the mood for sanctimonious whiners this morning.
>
> Pucker up, Bub!
>
> 73 DE CHarles, N5PVL
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Marcus KD0JKM
> To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 7:46 PM
> Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Mission Drift ?
>
>
>
>
> Charles, N5PVL,
>
>
> Please allow me to suggest that we refrain from any profane or derogatory language, thus

completely abide by the Amateur Radio Code http://www.slsrc.org/amateurs-code.html , as to truly differentiating ourselves from said persons.
>
>
>
>
> Thoughts about a Preamble were to have a nice QST text, so that others may learn more about the HF Radio Assistance Network and be encouraged to contact and participate in it, without having to resort to finding more info about it in the internet. Suggestions would be truly welcome on how best to perform this, especially as the Net is still very scarcely populated - haven't heard anyone of you key up on 60m, which is likely a combination of my personal available airtime, antenna situation, propagation, you name it.
>
>
> Regarding a member list for check-ins: might be nice to keep track of us all and our operating habits. May also demonstrate to some that we do operate the Net. Those of us who have fun in building something like this - why not let them? May keep up the morale while participation is still limited.
> Why meet it with negative criticism? Constructive alternative suggestions in which way we may announce this Net and get others interested would be more helpful. Why not go ahead with a positive example and show that this is a hobby - as well as a group - which is open for all?
>
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> As always - everything is possible - but there is certainly no "requirement".
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> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
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> http://mmsn.org/iaru.html
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> http://hfpack.com/air/
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radioassistancenetwork/
> http://kd0jkm.blogspot.com/
> SELCALL ID 3455
> ---
>

57. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-26 19:06:50 UTC
From: Joe Park
Topic: 24 Message: 57

Good afternoon, I am monitoring 14065 USB since I am on the West coast, mode is Olivia 8/500 ?

Joe WB6AGR

>_____
> From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
>To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
>Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2012 8:55 AM
>Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.
>
>
>
>As we still trying to create interest in this concept and develop an active membership, I thought perhaps narrowing down frequencies that we monitor , and times we put out out a general call, might be useful. So I am suggesting that we continue to monitor 7.0725 USB, 1500 Hz waterfall center and 14065 USB 1500 Hz waterfall . However, I am suggesting that we place general calls on the 40M frequency at the top of the hour and on 20M at the bottom of the hour (30 minutes past). This will just make monitoring a little easier. The general calls I am talking about would be along the lines of "This is K3UK with the Radio Assistance Network monitoring, any one on frequency ?" My concept is that no designated station would make such a call, ANY station that wishes can make the call and other RAN members may respond . I also envisage a situation where a station might make such a general call at the bottom of the hour and another
station do the same a minute or two later. Again, if a spontaneous net breaks out, I would encourage RAN members to sue their training and settle in to a rotation and net procedure that is suited to the situation.
>
>
>Thoughts ?
>
>
>
>The suggested 80M and 60M monitoring
frequencies should perhaps be moved in to the background for the
moment, pending further discussion about our new service.
>
>
>By the way, I saw someone mention on the NBEMS group that our Radio Assistance Network should NOT be viewed as a duplication of ARES. It never occurred to me that it would replace ARES/RACES or other groups. The RAN idea is for a network that is there when needed , one that supplements any other group. I do not intend us to compete with ARES, we couldn't if we tried!
>
>Andy K3UK

>
>
>
>

58. Re: Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-27 01:55:10 UTC
From: obrienaj
Topic: 50 Message: 58

I agree and disagree Dave :)

My guess is that like other major events, we will actually hear very little of ARES/RACES since in the past they tend to do their thing without letting the world know until after the event.I was thinking about an announcement that somehow describes our role as simple "monitoring" in the event someone needs assistance rather than in full fledged net mode or anything like that. Kinda like a ham monitoring a repeater as a storm passes through.

Other thoughts on this ?

Andy K3UK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:
>
> I might recommend we sit this one out and monitor the ARES/RACES/ACS channels. Â This could wind up being a very major event where we'd be better served supporting the established groups and not rolling out any major announcements.
>
> Having said that, I don't see anything wrong with putting out a few sitreps if ARES/RACES/ACS are not activated.
>
> -Dave, KB3FXI
>
>
> _____
> From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
> To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:36 PM
> Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?
>
>
> Â
> First, my apology...I have not got home from work early enough to be around for any 8PM activity the last week or so.Â I do monitor 7072.5 most evenings though, a little 14065Â and 60M too,Â I have dozed off on the couch a few times though.. tut tut.Â I guess I should point out that one of the RAN concepts is "when you have time" versus a formal requirement.
>
> I acknowledge that hurricane monitoring is well established by other groups, mostly voice nets.Â However, I wonder if theÂ approaching tropical storm/Nor Easter combo presents an opportunity for the sit-rep idea that Dave mentioned last week ?Â It might be a way to jump start ourÂ digital activity on 40M or 20M.Â Any thoughts about sit-reps as the storm approaches the east coast?Â It might also be an event that we could use to publicize our group to a wider group of hams.Â I have posted to the NBEMS and Digitalradio groups ONLY so far, but maybe we can drop some email in to wider Yahoogroups and QRZ forum , perhaps attract a few curious hams.Â I'm also still intrigued about our frequencies and sit-reps

being used by ARES/RACES groups that have notoriously not announced their activation status in any formal way , at least outside of their primary service area.Â One of my hopes would be that ARES/ARCES ECs would pop up on frequency just to let us
> know where things stand in their area and when they formally activate.Â
>
>
> Andy K3UK
>

59. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-27 16:48:57 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 50 Message: 59

Ok, Andy... understood.

My thought it to always under-promise and over-deliver.

With a potential once in a 150 year storm, many of us are going to be pulled to other nets, or just taking care of ourselves. My fear is that if an announcement goes out for call spots or bulletin schedules, that we're not developed to the point yet that we can have enough ops to cover the bases.

I think the most we should try to do is to announce that we will do a few daily scheduled bulletins on a specific spot at a specific UTC time. I can try to commit to transmit some scheduled bulletins but by Monday, I may have issues even here in Pittsburgh to deal with.

I would suggest we get solid commitments from folks just far enough out of the possible affected areas to do sitrep bulletins for specific skeds, with a backup volunteer for each sked... maybe on 7.0725 USB, 1500 Hz at 1200z, 1600z and 0000z.

This would allow folks to monitor their activated/designated nets and switch to receive bulletins when they can. Perhaps we could also state that we will monitor for traffic 30 or 45 minutes prior to the bulletin skeds for any incoming stations that might request having their info added to the RAN scheduled bulletins.

Any thoughts?

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: obrienaj <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, October 26, 2012 9:55 PM
Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Re: Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?

I agree and disagree Dave :)

My guess is that like other major events, we will actually hear very little of ARES/RACES since in the past they tend to do their thing without letting the world know until after the event.I was thinking about an announcement that somehow describes our role as simple "monitoring" in the event someone needs assistance rather than in full fledged net mode or anything like that. Kinda like a ham monitoring a repeater as a storm passes through.

Other thoughts on this ?

Andy K3UK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:
>
> I might recommend we sit this one out and monitor the ARES/RACES/ACS channels. Â This could wind up being a very major event where we'd be better served supporting the

established groups and not rolling out any major announcements.
>
> Having said that, I don't see anything wrong with putting out a few sitreps if ARES/RACES/ACS are not activated.
>
> -Dave, KB3FXI
>
>
> _____
> From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
> To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:36 PM
> Subject: [Radioassistancenetwork] Tropical Storm Sit-Rep Opportunity?
>
>
> Â
> First, my apology...I have not got home from work early enough to be around for any 8PM activity the last week or so.Â I do monitor 7072.5 most evenings though, a little 14065Â and 60M too,Â I have dozed off on the couch a few times though.. tut tut.Â I guess I should point out that one of the RAN concepts is "when you have time" versus a formal requirement.
>
> I acknowledge that hurricane monitoring is well established by other groups, mostly voice nets.Â However, I wonder if theÂ approaching tropical storm/Nor Easter combo presents an opportunity for the sit-rep idea that Dave mentioned last week ?Â It might be a way to jump start ourÂ digital activity on 40M or 20M.Â Any thoughts about sit-reps as the storm approaches the east coast?Â It might also be an event that we could use to publicize our group to a wider group of hams.Â I have posted to the NBEMS and Digitalradio groups ONLY so far, but maybe we can drop some email in to wider Yahoogroups and QRZ forum , perhaps attract a few curious hams.Â I'm also still intrigued about our frequencies and sit-reps being used by ARES/RACES groups that have notoriously not announced their activation status in any formal way , at least outside of their primary service area.Â One of my hopes would be that ARES/ARCES ECs would pop up on
frequency just to let us
> know where things stand in their area and when they formally activate.Â
>
>
> Andy K3UK
>

60. Re: Narrowing down monitoring frequencies/times.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-27 17:03:17 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 24 Message: 60

What about using NetLogger to help us know who is monitoring and on what band? http://netlogger.org It's donation-ware.

I've used it a few times as a participant. I don't know much about it and my copy is crashing today. There's little info on the website.

I know you can checkin by email but I don't know if a moderator needs to approve the checkin before everyone can can see it. (Or how many moderators there can be.) There's a live-chat window.

If it's possible, I'd see it being used as follows.
- All/most checkins would be done by email. (Mobiles would checkin over the air--hopefully any monitor could then check them in by email.)
- Those transmitting and those monitoring, could see which bands have checkins and QTHs.
- Even if you couldn't make contact at a certain time, it would encourage more transmissions and monitoring since you could see that others are really out there.
- When there are only a few checkins, a formal net control wouldn't be needed.

This might be a way to help jump start the net. I've listened a few times but I haven't heard anyone. (I'm redoing my antennas and can't transmit for awhile.)

Anyone have experience with NetLogger and know if it would be suitable?

Irv W4IWK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
>
> As we still trying to create interest in this concept and develop an active
> membership, I thought perhaps narrowing down frequencies that we monitor ,
> and times we put out out a general call, might be useful. So I am
> suggesting that we continue to monitor 7.0725 USB, 1500 Hz waterfall
> center and 14065 USB 1500 Hz waterfall . However, I am suggesting that we
> place general calls on the 40M frequency at the top of the hour and on 20M
> at the bottom of the hour (30 minutes past). This will just make
> monitoring a little easier. The general calls I am talking about would be
> along the lines of "This is K3UK with the Radio Assistance Network
> monitoring, any one on frequency ?" My concept is that no designated
> station would make such a call, ANY station that wishes can make the call
> and other RAN members may respond . I also envisage a situation where a
> station might make such a general call at the bottom of the hour and
> another station do the same a minute or two later. Again, if a
> spontaneous net breaks out, I would encourage RAN members to sue their
> training and settle in to a rotation and net procedure that is suited to
> the situation.
>
>
> Thoughts ?

>
>
>
> The suggested 80M and 60M monitoring frequencies should perhaps be moved
> in to the background for the moment, pending further discussion about our
> new service.
>
>
> By the way, I saw someone mention on the NBEMS group that our Radio
> Assistance Network should NOT be viewed as a duplication of ARES. It never
> occurred to me that it would replace ARES/RACES or other groups. The RAN
> idea is for a network that is there when needed , one that supplements any
> other group. I do not intend us to compete with ARES, we couldn't if we
> tried!
>
> Andy K3UK
>

61. Internet spotter page for RAN now active

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-27 23:37:54 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 61 Message: 61

I saw the post today about Net Logger, I like the idea but I don't think the group that runs it is not very active anymore. So, added a Radio Assistance Network tab to my K3UK Sked Page that enables people to log in and post their QRG and others then can use it to see who is QRV. Not as good as Netlogger could be, but easy for me to add. To access it, go to http://www.obriensweb.com/sked then click on the RAN page. On your first check-in, you are asked to register with your call sign, password and email address are optional. You can also specify your state and county which will be displayed to others when you check in.

Andy

62. Re: Internet spotter page for RAN now active

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-27 23:41:13 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 61 Message: 62

I forgot to mention, if you are so inclined.. you can set up your profile and include the ability to receive private emails when a particular station checks in, it will also alert your smartphone via SMS if you choose to allow it.

Andy K3UK

On Sat, Oct 27, 2012 at 7:37 PM, Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
> I saw the post today about Net Logger, I like the idea but I don't
> think the group that runs it is not very active anymore. So, added a
> Radio Assistance Network tab to my K3UK Sked Page that enables people
> to log in and post their QRG and others then can use it to see who is
> QRV. Not as good as Netlogger could be, but easy for me to add. To
> access it, go to http://www.obriensweb.com/sked then click on the RAN
> page. On your first check-in, you are asked to register with your
> call sign, password and email address are optional. You can also
> specify your state and county which will be displayed to others when
> you check in.
>
> Andy

63. Modified "Wilderness Protocol" on RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-27 23:53:09 UTC
From: Chaplain Dave Sparks
Topic: 63 Message: 63

I had a thought and I'm wondering if it might be useful. We have the "Wilderness Protocol" on VHF simplex where hams try to listen for emergency calls on designated simplex frequencies during the first five minutes of every hour. The rationale is that if you are operating on batteries and have limited time to transmit, you should do it when you can maximize the chances of someone listening. I'm not sure how applicable that is to HF, but we do have some HF rigs, like the Yeasu FT-897 which will operate at low power on an optional battery pack.

The other operating model I'm thinking of is REACT which used to (maybe still does) monitor the emergency channel on CB. They helped me out many times before I became a ham, when I needed to call a tow truck or report an accident. As far as I know they do/did it by volunteering for shifts to monitor channel 9 in a certain area.

For information on the Wilderness Protocol, here is a link:
http://www.tcoe.trinity.k12.**ca.us/~tcarc/tcproto.html<http://www.tcoe.trinity.k12.ca.us/~tcarc/tcproto.html>
.

--
Dave Sparks - AF6AS

64. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Modified "Wilderness Protocol" on RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 00:01:47 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 63 Message: 64

I think this is a good idea. I had suggested 20M top of the hour and 40M bottom of the hour, perhaps we should make it EITHER 20/40M freq in a 10 minute window at bottom and top of each hour ?

The shift idea I really like and saw it work locally many years ago, however, when ever I resurrect the idea I can find no takers.

Andy

On Sat, Oct 27, 2012 at 7:53 PM, Chaplain Dave Sparks <
dsparks.cell@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I had a thought and I'm wondering if it might be useful. We have the
> "Wilderness Protocol" on VHF simplex where hams try to listen for emergency
> calls on designated simplex frequencies during the first five minutes of
> every hour. The rationale is that if you are operating on batteries and
> have limited time to transmit, you should do it when you can maximize the
> chances of someone listening. I'm not sure how applicable that is to HF,
> but we do have some HF rigs, like the Yeasu FT-897 which will operate at
> low power on an optional battery pack.
>
> The other operating model I'm thinking of is REACT which used to (maybe
> still does) monitor the emergency channel on CB. They helped me out many
> times before I became a ham, when I needed to call a tow truck or report an
> accident. As far as I know they do/did it by volunteering for shifts to
> monitor channel 9 in a certain area.
>
> For information on the Wilderness Protocol, here is a link:
> http://www.tcoe.trinity.k12.**ca.us/~tcarc/tcproto.html<http://www.tcoe.trinity.k12.ca.u
s/~tcarc/tcproto.html>
> .
>
> --
> Dave Sparks - AF6AS
>
>
>

65. Re: Internet spotter page for RAN now active

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 00:16:35 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 61 Message: 65

I like the site. It's easy to use--after I found the chat entry field at the bottom of the screen.

How did you color your post magenta?

Irv W4IWK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
>
> I saw the post today about Net Logger, I like the idea but I don't
> think the group that runs it is not very active anymore. So, added a
> Radio Assistance Network tab to my K3UK Sked Page that enables people
> to log in and post their QRG and others then can use it to see who is
> QRV. Not as good as Netlogger could be, but easy for me to add. To
> access it, go to http://www.obriensweb.com/sked then click on the RAN
> page. On your first check-in, you are asked to register with your
> call sign, password and email address are optional. You can also
> specify your state and county which will be displayed to others when
> you check in.
>
> Andy
>

66. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Modified "Wilderness Protocol" on RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 00:25:39 UTC
From: Chaplain Dave Sparks
Topic: 63 Message: 66

The only problem with shifts is that they would need to vary according to propagation, unless you're relying on NVIS. It's somewhat more complicated than drawing a circle around your base station and saying that area is covered for the time you're monitoring it, like you can do on 11 m. In fact, it almost needs to be a case of "if you build it, they will come". We'd need to agree on something then publicize it to encourage people to take battery-powered HF rigs with them when they're backpacking or camping, in the hope that someone might hear them. That also means that the most probably mode would be SSB voice. I'd love for people to take a mini HF station with them capable of one of the low-powered digital modes. Maybe an inexpensive kit to interface an iPad or small battery-powered netbook to a battery-powered HF transceiver. (As a ham, I'd rather do that than invest in one of those pricey satcom emergency beacons.)

I'm just brainstorming, right now. Maybe a digital mode with some sort of built-in alarm to alert the operator to the words "MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY", or something like that, so that they operator doesn't have to be squinting at a computer monitor for an entire shift. In other words, I'd be more likely to volunteer for a one hour shift if I could do some homework on my IT degree while listening for an alarm and casting an occasional glance at my other computer screen.

On Sat, Oct 27, 2012 at 5:01 PM, Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I think this is a good idea. I had suggested 20M top of the hour and 40M
> bottom of the hour, perhaps we should make it EITHER 20/40M freq in a 10
> minute window at bottom and top of each hour ?
>
> The shift idea I really like and saw it work locally many years ago,
> however, when ever I resurrect the idea I can find no takers.
>
>
> Andy
>
>
> On Sat, Oct 27, 2012 at 7:53 PM, Chaplain Dave Sparks <
> dsparks.cell@...> wrote:
>
>> **
>>
>>
>> I had a thought and I'm wondering if it might be useful. We have the
>> "Wilderness Protocol" on VHF simplex where hams try to listen for emergency

>> calls on designated simplex frequencies during the first five minutes of
>> every hour. The rationale is that if you are operating on batteries and
>> have limited time to transmit, you should do it when you can maximize the
>> chances of someone listening. I'm not sure how applicable that is to HF,
>> but we do have some HF rigs, like the Yeasu FT-897 which will operate at
>> low power on an optional battery pack.
>>
>> The other operating model I'm thinking of is REACT which used to (maybe
>> still does) monitor the emergency channel on CB. They helped me out many
>> times before I became a ham, when I needed to call a tow truck or report an
>> accident. As far as I know they do/did it by volunteering for shifts to
>> monitor channel 9 in a certain area.
>>
>> For information on the Wilderness Protocol, here is a link:
>> http://www.tcoe.trinity.k12.**ca.us/~tcarc/tcproto.html<http://www.tcoe.trinity.k12.ca.
us/~tcarc/tcproto.html>
>> .
>>
>> --
>> Dave Sparks - AF6AS
>>
>>

67. No Good Whatsoever

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 10:20:02 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 61 Message: 67

List members might wonder why I'm not showing up on the air. (Or maybe not)

Anyway, I've got my shack torn down for a move. - My farm sold unexpectedly (yay!) so I've got to vacate the premises and go pick out a new place to live.

- So I'll be no good whatsoever for a month or so, after which I'll go back to being however good I was before the move.

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

68. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Modified "Wilderness Protocol" on RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 11:07:45 UTC
From: Peter Hamilton
Topic: 63 Message: 68

> Maybe a digital mode with some sort of built-in alarm to alert the operator to the words "MAYDAY
> MAYDAY MAYDAY", or something like that, so that they operator doesn't have to be squinting at a
> computer monitor for an entire shift.

The tools for this already exist: Fldigi "notifications", which can scan incoming text and trigger an event when a specific pattern is received. The events can include (in Linux, not sure about Windows) execution of an external program. This is particularly useful when combined with RSID.

I use this to monitor a 5MHz channel for calls and trigger alerts via both CW through the speakers and SMS. No fancy programming required, just simple shell scripts. for instance:

```
# /usr/local/bin/alertcw
echo "$1 $2 $3 $4" | cwpcm -w 20 -f 800 -lowrez -v 100 > /dev/dsp
logger "alertcw: $1 $2 $3 $4"
```

is the CW alert script, which sends the alert string sent by fldigi in morse through the speakers and also logs it to the syslog to keep a record.

This is executed by several fldigi notifications which scan for "CQ CQ", "G4VLC de" etc and execute 'alertcw <appropriate message>"

I do a similar thing for SMS alerts, though that uses an API specific to my SMS provider so there's no point in including the script here.

Notifications are a very powerful and underused feature of Fldigi: as they can execute an external program the possibilities are almost limitless.

--

Peter (G4VLC)

69. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] No Good Whatsoever

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 11:42:12 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 61 Message: 69

that is good news.... the farm selling !
Andy K3UK

On Sun, Oct 28, 2012 at 6:20 AM, Charles Brabham <n5pvl@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> **
> List members might wonder why I'm not showing up on the air. (Or maybe
> not)
>
> Anyway, I've got my shack torn down for a move. - My farm sold
> unexpectedly (yay!) so I've got to vacate the premises and go pick out a
> new place to live.
>
> - So I'll be no good whatsoever for a month or so, after which I'll go
> back to being however good I was before the move.
>
> 73 DE Charles, N5PVL
>
>
>
>

70. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Modified "Wilderness Protocol" on RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 11:45:13 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 63 Message: 70

Yes, I already have a "notification" set in Fldigi that sounds a audio chime when my area is called for check-ins during the NBEMS net on Sundays. That way, I can make coffee and other stuff and not have to be in the shack while other areas check-in.

Andy K3UK

71. Re: [Radioassistancenetwork] Modified "Wilderness Protocol" on RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 11:47:53 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 63 Message: 71

for my "chime" I use

"C:\WINDOWS\Media\Windows XP Startup.wav" as the path in FLdigi's Notifications.

On Sun, Oct 28, 2012 at 7:07 AM, Peter Hamilton <lists@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
>
> > Maybe a digital mode with some sort of built-in alarm to alert the
> operator to the words "MAYDAY
> > MAYDAY MAYDAY", or something like that, so that they operator doesn't
> have to be squinting at a
> > computer monitor for an entire shift.
>
> The tools for this already exist: Fldigi "notifications", which can scan
> incoming text and trigger an event when a specific pattern is received. The
> events can include (in Linux, not sure about Windows) execution of an
> external program. This is particularly useful when combined with RSID.
>
> I use this to monitor a 5MHz channel for calls and trigger alerts via both
> CW through the speakers and SMS. No fancy programming required, just simple
> shell scripts. for instance:
>
> # /usr/local/bin/alertcw
> echo "$1 $2 $3 $4" | cwpcm -w 20 -f 800 -lowrez -v 100 > /dev/dsp
> logger "alertcw: $1 $2 $3 $4"
>
> is the CW alert script, which sends the alert string sent by fldigi in
> morse through the speakers and also logs it to the syslog to keep a record.
>
> This is executed by several fldigi notifications which scan for "CQ CQ",
> "G4VLC de" etc and execute 'alertcw <appropriate message>"
>
> I do a similar thing for SMS alerts, though that uses an API specific to
> my SMS provider so there's no point in including the script here.
>
> Notifications are a very powerful and underused feature of Fldigi: as they
> can execute an external program the possibilities are almost limitless.
>
>
> --
>
> Peter (G4VLC)

>
>
>
>

72. Re: Internet spotter page for RAN now active

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 14:10:43 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 61 Message: 72

FYI, a screenshot

http://obriensweb.com/hfran.png

73. Mission tweak

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 17:43:57 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 73 Message: 73

Despite my claim that this group of open and has no formal leaders, I have taken the liberty to tweak the mission and alter the name a tad. I did this today after monitoring the suggested frequencies and seeing the good work of the various NBEMS groups. I do not want this group to take anything away from these groups or to unfairly capitalize on their hard work. Therefore, I have changed the name a little to reflect what we are actually doing. We offer assistance using NBEMS methods . I also agree with KB3FXI about not interfering with the activities of ARES/RACES but I would also add the goal of not interfering with the activities of formal NBEMS groups like paNBEMS or nyNBEMS . So, the mission tweak is that we monitoring the suggested frequencies in between NBEMS nets and offer assistance when needed. Calling "CQ RAN" or "CQ NBEMS RAN" , as discussed this week, would still be legitimate activity when there is no NBEMS on the frequency.

Andy K3UK

74. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Mission tweak

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-28 17:57:12 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 73 Message: 74

Good plan, Andy.

Also, as you saw from my bulletin on the paNBEMS net today (see below), we set up sitrep skeds thru the Hurricane Sandy event, one of which is 8pm. I welcome any of the NBEMS RAN folks to jump in with sitrep bulletins at the 8pm sked or any of the skeds or at any time.

Please keep in mind that PEMA/ACS uses the paNBEMS spots and if their net activates, they have priority on 3.583 USB, 1500 Hz and here on 7.0725 USB, 1500 Hz center waterfall, so if you check in, pse listen for several minutes before putting out a call.

-Dave, KB3FXI
paNBEMS

POLEWARD MOVING SANDY WILL AGAIN BECOME A POWERFUL STORM AS IT
TURNS WEST ON MONDAY...SLAMMING INTO THE NORTHERN MID ATLANTIC
COAST LATE MONDAY EVENING WITH A PERIOD OF 60 TO 75 MPH WIND GUSTS.

NY-NBEMS will be monitoring and operating on 7.036 USB, 1500 Hz waterfall center, 8/500.

In PA, possible phone/voice net ops with PEMA/ACS will be on 3.9905 LSB, 3.9935 LSB and ARES on 3.983 LSB or 7.272 LSB.

Until any formal nets are activated by ACS or ARES in PA, paNBEMS will monitor daylight hours 7.0725 USB , 1500 Hz waterfall center, 8/500 and night time on 3.583 USB, 1500 Hz waterfall center, 8/500 olivia.

paNBEMS will attempt to send situation report bulletins with Olivia 8/500 followed by MT63 1000 Hz or 500 Hz long interleave at the following daily schedules in local Eastern Time:

Noon - 3.583 USB
6pm - 7.0725 USB
8pm - 7.0725 USB
Midnight - 3.583 USB

Charge all your batteries, top off your fuel.

From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 1:43 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Mission tweak

Despite my claim that this group of open and has no formal leaders, I have taken the liberty to tweak the mission and alter the name a tad. I did this today after monitoring the suggested frequencies and seeing the good work of the various NBEMS groups. I do not want this group to take anything away from these groups or to unfairly capitalize on their hard work. Therefore, I have changed the name a little to

reflect what we are actually doing. We offer assistance using NBEMS methods . I also agree with KB3FXI about not interfering with the activities of ARES/RACES but I would also add the goal of not interfering with the activities of formal NBEMS groups like paNBEMS or nyNBEMS . So, the mission tweak is that we monitoring the suggested frequencies in between NBEMS nets and offer assistance when needed. Calling "CQ RAN" or "CQ NBEMS RAN" , as discussed this week, would still be legitimate activity when there is no NBEMS on the frequency.

Andy K3UK

75. Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-29 16:47:09 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 75 Message: 75

Google has put together an interactive map combing radar, satellite images, forecasts, Red Cross shelters, etc. for Hurricane Sandy.
<http://google.org/crisismap/sandy-2012>

On the following page they have a link: "Tools for First Responders".
<http://www.google.org/crisisresponse>

They've been doing this since Katrina.

Irv W4IWK

76. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-30 07:49:32 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 75 Message: 76

Interesting. Thanks

Also reading some tweets from NYC ARECS

Official Twitter feed of the New York City Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Service (NYC-ARECS). A Member of FEMAs National Preparedness Coalition.

NYC · http://nyc-arecs.org

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#*sandy* <https://twitter.com/search?q=%23sandy&src=hash> a woman in #*NYC*<https://twitter.com/search?q=%23NYC&src=hash>was electrocuted after stepping into a puddle on 105th Avenue in South Richmond Hill Queens.
* Details * <https://twitter.com/nycarecs/status/263184414622752768>
4m <https://twitter.com/nycarecs/status/263184136884346880> [image: NYC ARECS] *NYC ARECS* □@*nycarecs* <https://twitter.com/nycarecs>

#*sandy* <https://twitter.com/search?q=%23sandy&src=hash> deaths: Tony Laino, 29, a man from Flushing, Queens, home when a tree fell into his building. #*rip* <https://twitter.com/search?q=%23rip&src=hash> #*nyc*<https://twitter.com/search?q=%23nyc&src=hash>
* Details* <https://twitter.com/nycarecs/status/263184136884346880>

On Mon, Oct 29, 2012 at 12:47 PM, w4iwk <w4iwk@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Google has put together an interactive map combing radar, satellite

> images, forecasts, Red Cross shelters, etc. for Hurricane Sandy.
> <http://google.org/crisismap/sandy-2012>
>
> On the following page they have a link: "Tools for First Responders".
> <http://www.google.org/crisisresponse>
>
> They've been doing this since Katrina.
>
> Irv W4IWK
>
>
>

77. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-31 02:27:11 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 75 Message: 77

Dear Irv,

I believe the link to the Tools for Responders that you gave is of such importance, that I took the liberty of reposting this in various related Blogs/ websites, giving credit to you for posting it. I hope that this was/ is ok with you.

Those tools might also supplement the RAN mission. Will have to think a little about the tools and their potential usage. I found the examples given on the Google website very impressive. Imagine: RAN members entering data they intercept into the Google Maps tool, etc. ... similar to the example given for the New Zealand Earthquake
http://www.google.org/crisisresponse/pdfs/Case_Study_Crisis_Response_Google_Maps.pdf
or here about the San Diego wildfires: http://maps.google.com/help/maps/getmaps/#kpbs

Could also be done right now on the Hurricane Sandy map. RAN or any other Amateur Radio Operator could submit a new map layer via this link:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/formResponse?formkey=dDdSakVCZnNualhxM3NZSXlFVk0wYkE6MQ&ifq

All,
how about we brainstorm how these tools could be integrated in the RAN mission.

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

78. Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-10-31 14:26:14 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 75 Message: 78

Your link for the San Diego Wildfires didn't lead to obvious content. Here's a link to the map:
<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msa=0&msid=114250687465160386813.00043d08ac31fe3357571>

I agree there are some possibilities here. Maybe combine it with the prior idea of situation reports.

The crises map concept could be a good fit for an informal network. It's using crowdsourcing (RAN) to accumulate and display situation reports plus info accumulated through other sources. Everyone could see the data, even if they didn't hear the situation report.

My daughter has lived in Brooklyn and worked in Manhattan during the blackout, 9/11 and several smaller disruptions. She would call us (or text) with her cell phone and ask us what was going on.

A map like these would be useful. Some could access them directly, others indirectly if they had even limited communication with those outside the area.

Irv W4IWK

>
> Dear Irv,
>
> I believe the link to the Tools for Responders that you gave is of such importance, that I took the liberty of reposting this in various related Blogs/ websites, giving credit to you for posting it. I hope that this was/ is ok with you.
>
> Those tools might also supplement the RAN mission. Will have to think a little about the tools and their potential usage. I found the examples given on the Google website very impressive. Imagine: RAN members entering data they intercept into the Google Maps tool, etc. ... similar to the example given for the New Zealand Earthquake
http://www.google.org/crisisresponse/pdfs/Case_Study_Crisis_Response_Google_Maps.pdf
> or here about the San Diego wildfires: http://maps.google.com/help/maps/getmaps/#kpbs
>
> Could also be done right now on the Hurricane Sandy map. RAN or any other Amateur Radio Operator could submit a new map layer via this link:
> https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/formResponse?formkey=dDdSakVCZnNualhxM3NZSXlFVk0wYkE6MQ&ifq
>
>
> All,
> how about we brainstorm how these tools could be integrated in the RAN mission.
>
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

>

79. Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-01 00:38:14 UTC
From: Marcus
Topic: 75 Message: 79

Hi Irv,

Thank you for your kind reply and correction of the link. I still have to browse through all examples given on the Google Crisis Response Resources webpage http://www.google.org/crisisresponse/resources.html to see how Amateur Radio may best be used in conjunction with it.

I wondered if it were legally allowed to relay such EmComm info to the internet, but believe that it is legal as outlined here
http://www.arrl.org/news-gatherings-and-amateur-radio
Guess a good portion of common sense comes into play as well (not relaying names of deceased individuals into the internet for example), but that should be pretty obvious.

Very moving to hear about your daughter - I hope she is able to stay safe, in case she's still living there.

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

80. Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 12:26:10 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 80 Message: 80

I've explored this concept before (on other mail list) but the idea fizzled.

While I accept that most NBEMS advocates see ALE as the Devil incarnate , I think it could potentially be something that really helps NBEMS concepts and also help the Radio Assistance Network idea.

When the NBEMS/FLDIGI team developed things like FLARQ the goal was to make emcomm simple and spectrum efficient. That spectrum efficiency included the use of narrow band digital modes and avoidance of systems that used automated "unattended " transmissions. ALE's base digital mode is 2.7 KLhz wide and most ham ALE use relies on some automated brief transmissions.

I fully agree with the NBEMS concepts and goals of spectrum efficiency but think ALE could be useful. I say "could" because I am not sure. I would like to test some ideas. Maybe over this weekend I could enlist a station or two to test some ideas.

Software like PC-ALE is used to facilitate "automatic" linking. The idea behind ALE is that you use the base digital mode to "find" the target station and once you have found that station (a "link"), you move to a mode that is suited for the conditions at that time. I'm thinking about using ALE to find a RAN station and then switching to Fldigi for use of other modes and message delivering systems (FLAMP FLMSG). A more advanced application of ALE is that it could call-up a net for RAN automatically, but we'll leave that for another day.

ALE software has one very unique and useful feature. It scans HF channels quite quickly (one frequency per second) AND if an ALE signal is detected while scanning, it pauses to decode . If what is decoded is intended for your station, your station can respond.

So, for something like RAN operations, your radio might scan 3-4 "channels" , taking about 3-4 seconds to scan the entire list of channels. An ALE "call" lasts about 12 seconds, so unless you are already paused to decode someone, you will not miss anyone's call to you.

ALE has lots of other fancy features, but I have found they do not work so well when compared to the features we have in Fldigi and NBEMS. The ALE feature that does work well is the scan-find station-link feature.

I'm still not sure how it would work on RAN operations, need to think some more. Hoever a basic concept would be... we program software like PC-ALE to scan the suggested RAB monitoring frequencies (7072.5, 14065,. maybe even 3583 too) . We scan for as long as we like , even when out of the shack if you want , the ALE softare will save a log of who was active on any of the channels. The software can be programmed to not put your station in transmit unless you are in the shack. There is a "busy detect"

feature too. If I wanted to reach VE3FAL, I place a "call" to VE3FAL in PC-ALE (or Multipsk) and my software automatically calls VE3FAL on all the suggested RAN channels. If VE3FAL hears my signal , his radio and softare stop scanning and respond. When linked, I suggest to Fred that we use Olivia 5/800 and I send traffic to him via FLdigi. The use of those nasty wide ALE signals may be no more than 2-3 10 second transmission bursts and the hard work is done by spectrum friendly NBEMS in Fldigi.

If I wanted to get carried away with the idea, I could also conceive of a situation where we RAN members wanted to call up an unanticipated net. PC-ALE software can be configured with RAN member callsigns and automatically call each station in specified net order. What happens after that, I have no idea because I've never had enough people to experiment with the idea.

So, if you are game for playing with this idea this weekend, let me know. I can help with software set-up if needed. I'm not suggesting we flood known NBEMS frequencies with a lot of ALE transmissions. Even if I was, I doubt i would get that many stations to create the "flood". I'm just looking to see if we can establish a link using ALE and see how switching to Fldigi goes after that.

Andy K3UK

Oh, speaking of VE3FAL, I just decoded his ALE signal

[12:15:23][FRQ 07102000][SND][ ][TWS][VE3FAL][AL0]
BER 27 SN 06

81. Re: Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 12:36:53 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 80 Message: 81

FYI, I have added 7072.5 and 14065 USB to my current ALE scan channels with
NO automatic ALE soundings. Those RAN members already QRV with ALE can
call me there or on regular ALE digital channels 20M and below.
Andy K3UK

On Sat, Nov 3, 2012 at 8:26 AM, Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...> wrote:

> I've explored this concept before (on other mail list) but the idea
> fizzled.
>
> While I accept that most NBEMS advocates see ALE as the Devil incarnate ,
> I think it could potentially be something that really helps NBEMS concepts
> and also help the Radio Assistance Network idea.
>
> When the NBEMS/FLDIGI team developed things like FLARQ the goal was to
> make emcomm simple and spectrum efficient. That spectrum efficiency
> included the use of narrow band digital modes and avoidance of systems that
> used automated "unattended " transmissions. ALE's base digital mode is 2.7
> KLhz wide and most ham ALE use relies on some automated brief transmissions.
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> I fully agree with the NBEMS concepts and goals of spectrum efficiency but
> think ALE could be useful. I say "could" because I am not sure. I would
> like to test some ideas. Maybe over this weekend I could enlist a station
> or two to test some ideas.
>
> Software like PC-ALE is used to facilitate "automatic" linking. The idea
> behind ALE is that you use the base digital mode to "find" the target
> station and once you have found that station (a "link"), you move to a
> mode that is suited for the conditions at that time. I'm thinking about
> using ALE to find a RAN station and then switching to Fldigi for use of
> other modes and message delivering systems (FLAMP FLMSG). A more advanced
> application of ALE is that it could call-up a net for RAN automatically,
> but we'll leave that for another day.
>
> ALE software has one very unique and useful feature. It scans HF channels
> quite quickly (one frequency per second) AND if an ALE signal is detected
> while scanning, it pauses to decode . If what is decoded is intended for
> your station, your station can respond.
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> So, for something like RAN operations, your radio might scan 3-4
> "channels" , taking about 3-4 seconds to scan the entire list of channels.
> An ALE "call" lasts about 12 seconds, so unless you are already paused to
> decode someone, you will not miss anyone's call to you.
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> ALE has lots of other fancy features, but I have found they do not work so

> well when compared to the features we have in Fldigi and NBEMS. The ALE
> feature that does work well is the scan-find station-link feature.
>
>
> I'm still not sure how it would work on RAN operations, need to think some
> more. Hoever a basic concept would be... we program software like PC-ALE
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> station in transmit unless you are in the shack. There is a "busy detect"
> feature too. If I wanted to reach VE3FAL, I place a "call" to VE3FAL in
> PC-ALE (or Multipsk) and my software automatically calls VE3FAL on all the
> suggested RAN channels. If VE3FAL hears my signal , his radio and softare
> stop scanning and respond. When linked, I suggest to Fred that we use
> Olivia 5/800 and I send traffic to him via FLdigi. The use of those nasty
> wide ALE signals may be no more than 2-3 10 second transmission bursts and
> the hard work is done by spectrum friendly NBEMS in Fldigi.
>
> If I wanted to get carried away with the idea, I could also conceive of a
> situation where we RAN members wanted to call up an unanticipated net.
> PC-ALE software can be configured with RAN member callsigns and
> automatically call each station in specified net order. What happens after
> that, I have no idea because I've never had enough people to experiment
> with the idea.
>
> So, if you are game for playing with this idea this weekend, let me know.
> I can help with software set-up if needed. I'm not suggesting we flood
> known NBEMS frequencies with a lot of ALE transmissions. Even if I was, I
> doubt i would get that many stations to create the "flood". I'm just
> looking to see if we can establish a link using ALE and see how switching
> to Fldigi goes after that.
>
> Andy K3UK
>
> Oh, speaking of VE3FAL, I just decoded his ALE signal
>
> [12:15:23][FRQ 07102000][SND][ ][TWS][VE3FAL][AL0]
> BER 27 SN 06
>
>
>
>
>

82. Re: Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 16:25:05 UTC
From: Marcus
Topic: 80 Message: 82

Hi Andy,

When I first red about RAN, I thought it was like an ALE network that was solely man-power operated, obviating the PCALE software (or hardware ALE), thus I think your thoughts about ALE being of a RAN adjunct is not so far fetched. I even believe that ALE is a more efficient use of manpower.

Completely agree with you using ALE to facilitate the connection between 2 stations by having ALE choose the correct band from its LQA table. My idea was to then use PSKmail once the connection is established, as PSKmail will automatically choose the most efficient mode according to the connection quality.

As i bet you know, but i write it here for those in the list who might not, current HFLink Pilot stations use W2LK to facilitate the data connection once the HF connection has been established by ALE. Since W2LK relies on 5 (or is it 6?) central servers for all data traffic, all of them Windows based, I doubt that those 5 or 6 servers would be able to handle all traffic if a real WTSHTF situation were to occur. Also don't trust Windows as the only OS for an EmComm network, would prefer to have Linux and OSX in the mix, just to keep malware at bay (ever heard of a virus bringing down all of those 3 OS down at the same time?).

In summary, I'd love to see an ALE network with PSKmail installed on different computer OS, preferably with the PSKmail / PCALE computers NOT connected to the Internet, as to keep them shielded from intruders.
One can still transfer the messages to a computer which is connected to the Internet, which -yes- does imply manual relaying, but what better firewall is there than to keep the Internet as we know it separate from an HF only PSKmail network?

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

83. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 19:12:39 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 80 Message: 83

You're getting mixed-up there, Andy.

Most NBEMS advocates understand about never transmitting without listening first, and never operating in such a way as to reduce the enjoyment of the hobby by your fellow hams, etc. and so on.

In other words, most NBEMS advocates are not Lids, and are not interested in becoming Lids.

You can try to paint that attitude as being unreasonable if you like - but once again you will find that you are not getting much traction, there.

There are very few 'hams' do not really care about the hobby, the FCC's PART97 regulations, their fellow amateurs, or about being a worthless no-count Lid - and the bulk of those 'hams' are already involved in WinLink.

Maybe you can canvass CB'ers and Family Radio folks to find a few sociopaths who would think that it was a really neat idea to take a big whizz on NBEMS by associating it with ALE, etc..

None of the legitimate hams will go for it.

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

----- Original Message -----
From: Andrew O'Brien
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, November 03, 2012 7:26 AM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

I've explored this concept before (on other mail list) but the idea fizzled.

While I accept that most NBEMS advocates see ALE as the Devil incarnate ,

84. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 19:28:57 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 80 Message: 84

But Charles... what would be "lid" about it if we used it as I described ?
No different than using MT63 2K in terms of hogging some space, and no
untended operations, no automated transmissions .

On Sat, Nov 3, 2012 at 3:12 PM, Charles Brabham <n5pvl@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> **
> You're getting mixed-up there, Andy.
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> first, and never operating in such a way as to reduce the enjoyment of the
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>
> None of the legitimate hams will go for it.
>
> 73 DE Charles, N5PVL
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> *From:* Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
> *To:* Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Saturday, November 03, 2012 7:26 AM
> *Subject:* [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?
>
>
>
> I've explored this concept before (on other mail list) but the idea
> fizzled.

>
> While I accept that most NBEMS advocates see ALE as the Devil incarnate ,
>
>
>

85. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 19:54:37 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 80 Message: 85

It seems to me that ALE is a great system for establishing difficult paths on the higher HF bands when it's used as intended in an automated scanning/sounding mode on dedicated/clear frequencies with rigs and antennae and/or antannae tuning systems capably of fast switching.

IMHO, ALE on the amateur bands is an attempt to take a mode/protocol that is designed for dedicated military/government frequencies spots, where I'm sure it works great, to use on our shared frequency allocation on the HF amateur bands.

I'm not sure where we're going with RAN. If we're shooting for worldwide emcomm on 30, 20, 15 and 10, then perhaps ALE could add some value to finding useful paths. But, sounding and scanning multiple bands and frequencies without busy detect isn't okay in my book and I don't think RAN would ever get much traction in the way of PCALE users.

For HF emcomm, I think our bread and butter bands are 40m and 80m. Any experienced HF operator can quickly and easily determine conditions by simply taking a minute or two to monitor the PSK31 spots and the popular SSB phone spots to hear who is strong and who is not.

I'm coming to the conclusion, after a lot of testing (including the SATERN net today on 14.065) that 30m and up are almost useless for emcomm until (when or even if) we can get many serious big gun stations with towers and directional high gain antennae to help us out with relays. We're better off working NBEMS with FLMSG and FLAMP on 40m and relaying for regional or national comms.

I would suggest we concentrate on manned ops, human error correction and the fantastic tools we now have available in the NBEMS suite of applications... simple, easy to use and deploy and highly effective.

If I were to ever venture beyond what we have now in NBEMS for HF emcomm, it would be PSK MAIL for store and forward. iGate on PSK Mail for internet to HF could be nice, but I would prefer to not ever rely on email for any kind of priority or emergency communications unless it was an absolute last resort.

I am definitely not in favor of even manned ALE soundings on the 7.0725 USB spot. We've carved out a watering hole there for NBEMS and I would not like to see the water get muddied.

-Dave, KB3FXI

_____
From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, November 3, 2012 3:28 PM
Subject: Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

But Charles... what would be "lid" about it if we used it as I described ? No different than using MT63 2K in terms of hogging some space, and no untended operations, no automated transmissions .

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>
>----- Original Message -----
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>>To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
>>Sent: Saturday, November 03, 2012 7:26 AM
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>>
>>I've explored this concept before (on other mail list) but the idea fizzled.
>>
>>While I accept that most NBEMS advocates see ALE as the Devil
incarnate ,

86. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 19:58:38 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 80 Message: 86

David, I am beginning to have the same opinion of bands above 40M for emcomm.
Andy K3UK

On Sat, Nov 3, 2012 at 3:54 PM, David Kleber <kb3fxi@yahoo.com> wrote:

> **
>
>
> It seems to me that ALE is a great system for establishing difficult paths
> on the higher HF bands when it's used as intended in an automated
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> IMHO, ALE on the amateur bands is an attempt to take a mode/protocol that
> is designed for dedicated military/government frequencies spots, where I'm
> sure it works great, to use on our shared frequency allocation on the HF
> amateur bands.
>
> I'm not sure where we're going with RAN. If we're shooting for worldwide
> emcomm on 30, 20, 15 and 10, then perhaps ALE could add some value to
> finding useful paths. But, sounding and scanning multiple bands and
> frequencies without busy detect isn't okay in my book and I don't think RAN
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> experienced HF operator can quickly and easily determine conditions by
> simply taking a minute or two to monitor the PSK31 spots and the popular
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> *To:* Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Saturday, November 3, 2012 3:28 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?
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> ----- Original Message -----
> *From:* Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
> *To:* Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Saturday, November 03, 2012 7:26 AM
> *Subject:* [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?
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87. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 20:07:14 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 80 Message: 87

Agreed, Andy.

20m for intercon would be great if we had the strength in numbers that nets like the Maritime Mobile Net or the NHW net have.

Quite frankly, it pisses me off to a great extent that there are literally thousands of big gun contest stations, with 100' towers, monster high-gain beams, sitting on gear and infrastructure worth tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars, who can't be bothered to pull themselves away from trading bogus 59 reports for qso cards and contest wallpaper.

So much for the idea of giving back to the amateur radio service, our communities and the country by volunteering just a little bit of time and effort to emcomm. This goes on as we sit on literally BILLIONS of dollars worth of spectrum that commercial entities are chomping at the bit to get their hands on.

It's really quite pitiful.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, November 3, 2012 3:58 PM
Subject: Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

David, I am beginning to have the same opinion of bands above 40M for emcomm.
Andy K3UK

On Sat, Nov 3, 2012 at 3:54 PM, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:

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>I am definitely not in favor of even manned ALE soundings on the 7.0725 USB spot. We've carved out a watering hole there for NBEMS and I would not like to see the water get muddied.
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88. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-03 20:11:20 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 80 Message: 88

and this echoes my long held view that those that portray amateur radio as "full" of emcomm serving hams are wrong. We are a small majority compared to the DX and contest fanatics who have NO interest in public service.
Andy

On Sat, Nov 3, 2012 at 4:07 PM, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:

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89. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-04 09:32:53 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 80 Message: 89

Bless your heart, Andy; You keep butting your head against something, and that 'something' is proper, respectful operating practice that follows the law.

After having had the "lid-ness' of scofflaw, antisocial behavior on the air pointed out to you on multiple occasions by several hams - it always kind of whizzes over your head, like a child trying and failing to follow an adult conversation.

You never seem to get the point.

So, over and over, you try to inject one Lid-op system after another into NBEMS - and keep getting shot down (over and over) without learning anything from the experience.

I can only conclude that it really hare-lips you somehow that NBEMS is built around good operating practice along with respect for the hobby, ourselves, and our fellow hams. - It apparently bugs you like an itch that can't be scratched.

Bless your heart, that's got to be a miserable mind-set to have to walk around with.

If you weren't trying to take a serial whizz on NBEMS with this behavior, I would feel sorry for you.

As it is, I am reminded of Vonnegut's desription of the fascist mind in his book "Mother Night" where the mind is like a well-oiled and finely crafted clock - that has a cog missing or damaged. The clock works normally, keeping perfect time - until that broken cog (good operating practice) comes up, at which time the hands spin round and round backwards, the little bird pops in and out over and over again - until the mechanism lurches past the broken cog and goes back to working perfectly again.

No, I'm not accusing you of being a fascist Andy - but you definately ought to look into repairing that missing cog, eh?

I think that you are a pretty clever guy and once you finally get the point, it will stick.

The Amateur's Code
by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

a.. CONSIDERATE never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

b.. LOYAL offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

c.. PROGRESSIVE with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

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Sent: Saturday, November 03, 2012 1:28 PM
Subject: Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

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On Sat, Nov 3, 2012 at 3:12 PM, Charles Brabham <n5pvl@...> wrote:

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90. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Using ALE as an NBEMS adjunct for RAN?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-04 10:02:54 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 80 Message: 90

Charles, you did not answer the rather basic question.... ...

If ALE operations include what is generally accepted as Lid behavior, and you then REMOVE the Lid behavior.... what would be wrong with ALE?
I'm assuming the behavior you object to is automatic transmissions , unattended operations, and a 2.7 Khz wide signal, anything else ?

If I wrote software tomorrow that use Olivia 8/500 , scanned multiple frequencies and bands, and paused on detection of another Olivia signal ... would you find it to be Lid in nature ?

I'm beginning to suspect you harbor a prejudice that defies reasonable judgment. Maybe you just don't like anything that begins with an 'A' or maybe words that rhyme with "snail" trigger some PTSD causing event from your childhood. I'm happy to concede your point IF you can speficy what it is you are actually objecting to when it comes to ALE. I've guessed the usual ones, but if there are others I am missing, please speficy rather than hiding behind blanket generalizations. I have warned you before about unnecessarily provocative sarcasm rather than constructive debate, please try to keep the discussion in keeping with the amateur code you espouse.

- CONSIDERATE never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

- LOYAL offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs,

- FRIENDLY with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

You are always free to disagree, but do so in a manner that meets the above expectations.

Andy K3UK

On Sun, Nov 4, 2012 at 4:32 AM, Charles Brabham <n5pvl@...> wrote:

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91. Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-04 17:08:11 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 75 Message: 91

Maybe Marcus KD0JKM and are the only ones that see any potential in Google Maps and emergency communication. Here are a few more thoughts. If no one else jumps in, we'll take this offline.

One of the issues that I see with emergency communication is that small pockets of damage are often overlooked for several days after a disaster. Formal nets are great at what they do but they don't solve this problem. There are often hams in and near these pockets but there's not a mechanism for them to assist.

Thus the admonitions for hams not to self-deploy. I've seen and heard complaints from hams re Sandy that they wanted to help but there was nothing for them to do. But what if we had a way to pass info back and forth between our neighborhood and the world. A way that didn't interfere with formal nets but provided info in map form that could be accessed by anyone.

☐ Google Maps and/or Google earth can be used to enter, accumulate, and share disaster info by placing icons with comments on a map. Both can import/export this data as KML files.
- Google Maps requires an internet connection and the info is immediately shared.
- Google Earth can be used offline with KML files that can be transmitted into and/or out of the affected area.

Hams in and near an affected area would enter info on their immediate area onto the map: e.g., damaged homes, open gas stations, etc. and transmit their KML file. Or they could request info and KML files could be sent to them. Hams could share this map with the neighborhood e.g., where's the closest open gas station or shelter.

☐ KML files being XML have a lot of redundant text in them so compression would make a big difference in file size.

☐ Google has redundant server farms around the country and world so they're likely to stay up and running.

☐ To me, this is complimentary to RAN. It just a way to collect situation reports and make them widely available.

To summarize, any ham can post info to Google Maps either from their own knowledge or from a KML they received from another ham. Any ham could send KML from the Google Crisis map and other sources to hams inside or near the affected area.

Not much coordination is required:
- setup some google accounts
- write instructions
- allow hams to sign up so they can enter data
- publicize the effort and the frequencies to be used

Thoughts?

Irv W4IWK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, Marcus <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Irv,
>

> Thank you for your kind reply and correction of the link. I still have to browse through all examples given on the Google Crisis Response Resources webpage
> http://www.google.org/crisisresponse/resources.html to see how Amateur Radio may best be used in conjunction with it.
>
> I wondered if it were legally allowed to relay such EmComm info to the internet, but believe that it is legal as outlined here
> http://www.arrl.org/news-gatherings-and-amateur-radio
> Guess a good portion of common sense comes into play as well (not relaying names of deceased individuals into the internet for example), but that should be pretty obvious.
>
> Very moving to hear about your daughter - I hope she is able to stay safe, in case she's still living there.
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>

92. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-04 21:55:59 UTC
From: Charles J. Hargrove
Topic: 75 Message: 92

Now this has some merit as it pertains to what NYC-ARECS is doing on Twitter.
We could also get others to submit info to build out the dataset. The trick
is to keep it updated as it WILL change in the course of a disaster and the
recivery phase. Let's also figure out how we can share the info via NBEMS
for those who may not have internet access to submit info or to retrieve it.

--
Charles J. Hargrove - N2NOV
NYC ARECS/RACES Citywide Radio Officer/Skywarn Coord.

NYC-ARECS/RACES Net Mon. @ 8:30PM 147.360/107.2 PL
http://www.nyc-arecs.org and http://www.nyc-skywarn.org

NYDXA SWL & Scanner Net Wed. @ 9PM 147.360/107.2 PL
http://www.n2nov.net

"Information is the oxygen of the modern age. It seeps through the walls topped
by barbed wire, it wafts across the electrified borders." - Ronald Reagan

"The more corrupt the state, the more it legislates." - Tacitus

"Molann an obair an fear" - Irish Saying
(The work praises the man.)

"No matter how big and powerful government gets, and the many services it
provides, it can never take the place of volunteers." - Ronald Reagan

93. [NBEMS RAN>] Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-05 03:09:36 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 75 Message: 93

Hi Irv,

I totally agree with you on the utility of the Google Crisis Maps.

Allow me to expand on your idea on how to get the data into the Google Crisis Response Webpages:

"...Hams in and near an affected area would enter info on their immediate area onto the map: e.g., damaged homes, open gas stations, etc. and transmit their KML file. ..."

Due to bandwidth likely being limited for HAMs in affected areas, my thoughts were that affected HAMs send out their (structured) messages as to "what" is happening "where" - and HAMs (likely outside the affected area) who have good internet connections, enter the data properly formated into the Google Crisis Response tools. What do you think?

Irv,
a question: you said: "... any ham can post info to Google Maps either from their own knowledge or from a KML they received from another ham. ..."
How do you do it? I browsed the Google pages extensively, but have only found references that one needs a ATOM or RSS feed which pushes it's info to the Google server. Tried to learn how to make an ATOM feed, but was unable to figure it out.

Charles N2NOV,
your mention of your Twitter posts is the intro to my next question that we have to solve, as HAMs acting outside an "established" organization: How to guarantee the accurateness of the info presented in such ATOM or RSS feeds? Google points out that they are (understandably) concerned about the information integrity and will (only?) accept information from verified sources (signed with HTTPS etc.).
How do we present ourselves as a trustworthy source?

Charles, you mentioned that data needs to be updated. I read on the Google instruction pages that data entered has to carry a "valid to" date, so I assume that "old" data is marked accordingly (or maybe even deleted). I assume it really depends on the affected HAMs communicating to the outside, on what the current situation is / if there has been any change to their local situation.

Irv, you brought up the next logistical question: how to get that info to HAMs in affected areas:
- Do APRS maps not relay that info in small file sizes? Sorry, don't know any technical details.
- Google mentioned that they are able to compress their data immensely for access by mobile devices. I am confident that they would be able to work out how to compress the KML files for HAM usage. I tried to find the page again on their website on how they compress KML for mobile devices, but no luck.

So,
I believe we need answers to the following:
- how to technically interface with Google
- how to establish us (meaning HAMs in general) as being legitimate sources of information so that Google accepts the info
- how to get the KML info back to affected HAMs (WEFAX like?)

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

94. [NBEMS RAN>] Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-05 13:33:18 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 75 Message: 94

Marcus KD0JKM,

Sorry, I didn't make one thing clear in my last post. In that post I wasn't suggesting that info be posted to Google's Crisis Response Webpage. That could be done (with the issues you mention) but the same type of map can be done by anyone using Google map and Google Earth. I'm thinking that RAN or other groups would have their own Google map webpage where the info is entered and viewed.

Formally entering data into the Google Crisis Response web page could be done and has merit. Both approaches could be combined. An organized group like NYC ARECS/RACES would find it a lot easier to get accepted by Google Crisis Response than a loose affiliation of hams.

re: data compression
Flmsg can handle the compression.

Google has a file extension KMZ which is a compressed KML format--possibly a zip format.

Irv

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "kd0jkm" <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Irv,
>
> I totally agree with you on the utility of the Google Crisis Maps.
>
> Allow me to expand on your idea on how to get the data into the Google Crisis Response Webpages:
>
> "...Hams in and near an affected area would enter info on their immediate area onto
> the map: e.g., damaged homes, open gas stations, etc. and transmit their KML
> file. ..."
>
> Due to bandwidth likely being limited for HAMs in affected areas, my thoughts were that affected HAMs send out their (structured) messages as to "what" is happening "where" - and HAMs (likely outside the affected area) who have good internet connections, enter the data properly formated into the Google Crisis Response tools. What do you think?
>
>
> Irv,
> a question: you said: "... any ham can post info to Google Maps either from their own
> knowledge or from a KML they received from another ham. ..."
> How do you do it? I browsed the Google pages extensively, but have only found references that one needs a ATOM or RSS feed which pushes it's info to the Google server. Tried to learn how to make an ATOM feed, but was unable to figure it out.
>

> Charles N2NOV,
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> How do we present ourselves as a trustworthy source?
>
> Charles, you mentioned that data needs to be updated. I read on the Google instruction pages that data entered has to carry a "valid to" date, so I assume that "old" data is marked accordingly (or maybe even deleted). I assume it really depends on the affected HAMs communicating to the outside, on what the current situation is / if there has been any change to their local situation.
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> Irv, you brought up the next logistical question: how to get that info to HAMs in affected areas:
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>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>

95. Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-07 02:28:54 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 75 Message: 95

Irv,

How about you investigate how RAN could set up it's own webpage and I'll contact Google in what way they are willing to work with HAMs? As you rightly point out - both approaches have value.

I'll get back to the list when I know more.

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

96. Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-07 02:46:22 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 75 Message: 96

Irv,

I just found this link:

Google Crisis Response: How your information can be quickly & widely distributed in a crisis
https://docs.google.com/document/pub?id=1uXKmf7olU7fQ6bUR9wW2zgT2XI8aP-bl6SK4edrvsnk

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

97. Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-07 03:04:11 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 75 Message: 97

Irv,

Seems that here is what you need to build maps:

Create Custom Maps
Create custom map layers for Google Earth and Maps with Google Earth Builder’s intuitive map creation tools.

http://www.google.com/intl/es_es/enterprise/earthmaps/builder.html

vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM

98. Re: Goggle Crisis Map for Hurricane Sandy

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-07 14:44:23 UTC
From: w4iwk
Topic: 75 Message: 98

OK on creating a practice Google Web site with an editable map.

Irv W4IWK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, Marcus KD0JKM <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
>
> Irv,
>
> How about you investigate how RAN could set up it's own webpage and I'll contact Google in what way they are willing to work with HAMs? As you rightly point out - both approaches have value.
>
> I'll get back to the list when I know more.
>
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>

99. 14065 calls testing Flamp tonight

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-19 01:58:34 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 99 Message: 99

FYI, for the top of the hour RAN calls tonight on 14065, I will be testing calling the net up via Flamp's "event" feature. I will also be testing Flamp's "report" feature as a way for stations to check in. The band is dead so you may not hear me, good night to test!. If you do not have Flmap, you will still see the call-up in Fldigi using plain Olivia 8/500. I shall use the "event" feature but will be in the shack ecah time, will probably make it for the 9-10-11 and midnight (eastern) calls
Andy K3UK

100. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 14065 calls testing Flamp tonight

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-19 02:08:50 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 99 Message: 100

14.065 USB dial and where on the waterfall center?

I just put out a call for you on 1k.

I doubt I'm going to hear you from Pittsburgh on 20m but I'll leave it on with RSID.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, November 18, 2012 8:58 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] 14065 calls testing Flamp tonight

FYI, for the top of the hour RAN calls tonight on 14065, I will be
testing calling the net up via Flamp's "event" feature. I will also
be testing Flamp's "report" feature as a way for stations to check in.
The band is dead so you may not hear me, good night to test!. If you
do not have Flmap, you will still see the call-up in Fldigi using
plain Olivia 8/500. I shall use the "event" feature but will be in
the shack ecah time, will probably make it for the 9-10-11 and
midnight (eastern) calls
Andy K3UK

101. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 14065 calls testing Flamp tonight

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-11-19 02:13:02 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 99 Message: 101

1500 Hz center frequency

On Sun, Nov 18, 2012 at 9:08 PM, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> 14.065 USB dial and where on the waterfall center?
>
> I just put out a call for you on 1k.
>
> I doubt I'm going to hear you from Pittsburgh on 20m but I'll leave it on
> with RSID.
>
> -Dave, KB3FXI
>
>
> ----------
> *From:* Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...>
> *To:* Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Sunday, November 18, 2012 8:58 PM
> *Subject:* [NBEMS RAN>] 14065 calls testing Flamp tonight
>
>
> FYI, for the top of the hour RAN calls tonight on 14065, I will be
> testing calling the net up via Flamp's "event" feature. I will also
> be testing Flamp's "report" feature as a way for stations to check in.
> The band is dead so you may not hear me, good night to test!. If you
> do not have Flmap, you will still see the call-up in Fldigi using
> plain Olivia 8/500. I shall use the "event" feature but will be in
> the shack ecah time, will probably make it for the 9-10-11 and
> midnight (eastern) calls
> Andy K3UK
>
>
>
>

102. NVIS antenna

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-03 14:09:04 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 102 Message: 102

FYI,

http://fr.slideshare.net/kglassarrl/nvis#btnNext

Andy K3UK

103. Typhoon Bopha in eastern Mindanao?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-05 11:27:36 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 103 Message: 103

Any activity on HF bands relating to the typhoon in eastern Mindanao,
? Seems like much loss of life and I heard "communications have been
seriously damaged"

Andy K3UK

104. Calling?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 00:49:33 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 104 Message: 104

I don't get too many responses to the calling on the bottom/top of the hour idea. Any other ideas for stimulating interest? 14065 and 7072.5 seem to be the "go to" frequencies for NBEMS activity, not much action on 60M. Again, the basic idea is to have people casually monitor a frequency when they have time, respond as needed. However, to promote the concept I am thinking we need to generate a few more signals mentioning NBEMS RAN. If anyone wants to run a formal net, let me know. Friday night seem the night without any NBEMS nets.

Andy
K3UK

105. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 01:57:20 UTC
From: Zale Archer
Topic: 104 Message: 105

Andrew, I would be interested in a formal (NBEMS RAN) i have just started a Digital Net in the Pacific NW last week.

Title: MARA NW Digital Net (NBEMS) Every Wednesday (effective Dec 5th)
Time: 8:00 pm (PST) 9:00 pm , 0400z - 0500z
Location: 3581.5 USB 1500 center Olivia 8/500
Notes: W7MNW The purpose of the net is to introduce operators to using digital modes> Net Control uses fldigi as it has many modes avaailable. We will also learn to send and receive messages using fldigi software : flmsg, flamp, We will start the net using Olivia 8/500.

I am a Digital Net newby

Zale kc7fyd /nnn0hdk

----- Original Message -----
From: "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@gmail.com>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 4:49:33 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

I don't get too many responses to the calling on the bottom/top of the hour idea. Any other ideas for stimulating interest? 14065 and 7072.5 seem to be the "go to" frequencies for NBEMS activity, not much action on 60M. Again, the basic idea is to have people casually monitor a frequency when they have time, respond as needed. However, to promote the concept I am thinking we need to generate a few more signals mentioning NBEMS RAN. If anyone wants to run a formal net, let me know. Friday night seem the night without any NBEMS nets.

Andy
K3UK

106. Moving traffic coast to coast via NBEMS

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 02:04:44 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 106 Message: 106

Zale, I have been looking to try sending a message via NBEMS bets to
someone out west, just see how good/bad our general NBEMS network is at
the moment. I will format something, check in to an east coast net and
list traffic for you just to see what happens!
Ideally we need a few west coast and mid west nets to start up so we can
"hop" traffic between regions. I know I could use WL2K but am interested
in NTS concepts being modernized for NBEMS

Andy K3UK

On Mon, Dec 10, 2012 at 8:57 PM, Zale Archer <kc7fyd@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Andrew, I would be interested in a formal (NBEMS RAN) i have just started
> a Digital Net in the Pacific NW last week.
>
> Title: MARA NW Digital Net (NBEMS) Every Wednesday (effective
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> Time: 8:00 pm (PST) 9:00 pm , 0400z - 0500z
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> has many modes avaailable. We will also learn to send and receive messages
> using fldigi software : flmsg, flamp, We will start the net using Olivia
> 8/500.
>
> I am a Digital Net newby
>
> Zale kc7fyd /nnn0hdk
>
>
> ------------------------------
> *From: *"Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@gmail.com>
> *To: *Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent: *Monday, December 10, 2012 4:49:33 PM
> *Subject: *[NBEMS RAN>] Calling?
>
>
>
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> hour idea. Any other ideas for stimulating interest? 14065 and
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> to promote the concept I am thinking we need to generate a few more
> signals mentioning NBEMS RAN. If anyone wants to run a formal net,
> let me know. Friday night seem the night without any NBEMS nets.
>
> Andy
> K3UK
>
>
>

107. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 02:06:38 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 104 Message: 107

How was your first net ? Glad you are interested in a formal RAN net.

Andy K3UK

On Mon, Dec 10, 2012 at 8:57 PM, Zale Archer <kc7fyd@...> wrote:

> **
>
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>
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> *To: *Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent: *Monday, December 10, 2012 4:49:33 PM
> *Subject: *[NBEMS RAN>] Calling?
>
>
>
>
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> action on 60M. Again, the basic idea is to have people casually
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>

> Andy
> K3UK
>
>
>

108. RE: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 02:19:13 UTC
From: Paul Cavnar
Topic: 104 Message: 108

I have set my reminder for Wednesday at 2000PST to see if I can check with Zale from Reno, NV.. I have had no success with other NBEMS nets and don't have time for a MARS commitment.

If you read the "Radiogram" group's posts they spend more of their time trying to do NTS "by the book" and seem more interested in who misses details in a message or why not everyone follows the 'standards' any more. NTS is sporadic at best and while the regional and area nets do move some traffic at times, it's usually the same handful of stations. Many of the local and state nets have disappeared as well and this includes the digital nets. If NBEMS could start moving some traffic via NTS maybe the two could compliment each others efforts. It's too bad that "if it isn't a 'radiogram' it isn't a valid message" is the dominate message within that group also....

As I recall, it was over zealous NCS's and managers that pretty much killed MARS for new people during the late 80's to 90's because they would take every opportunity to berate someone for a least of infractions so that they usually left and never checked in again. I know of a few and this was common for all three services.... I would certainly hope that NBEMS takes a completely different approach to nurturing newbie's because lest we forget, everyone was the 'new guy' at one time....

Paul - AE7VT

-----Original Message-----
From: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
[mailto:Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Andrew
O'Brien
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 6:07 PM
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

How was your first net ? Glad you are interested in a formal RAN net.

Andy K3UK

On Mon, Dec 10, 2012 at 8:57 PM, Zale Archer <kc7fyd@...> wrote:

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Location: 3581.5 USB 1500 center
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Notes: W7MNW The purpose of the net is to
introduce operators to using digital modes> Net Control uses fldigi as
it has many modes avaailable. We will also learn to send and receive
messages using fldigi software : flmsg, flamp, We will start the net
using Olivia 8/500.

I am a Digital Net newby

Zale kc7fyd /nnn0hdk

From: "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 4:49:33 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

I don't get too many responses to the calling on the bottom/top of the
hour idea. Any other ideas for stimulating interest? 14065 and
7072.5 seem to be the "go to" frequencies for NBEMS activity, not much
action on 60M. Again, the basic idea is to have people casually
monitor a frequency when they have time, respond as needed. However,
to promote the concept I am thinking we need to generate a few more
signals mentioning NBEMS RAN. If anyone wants to run a formal net,
let me know. Friday night seem the night without any NBEMS nets.

Andy
K3UK

109. RE: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 02:41:51 UTC
From: Charles J. Hargrove
Topic: 104 Message: 109

That is what we've done since startng the NY-NBEMS and USeast-NBEMS nets.

> I would certainly hope that NBEMS takes a completely different approach to
> nurturing newbie's because lest we forget, everyone was the 'new guy' at
> one time....
>
> Paul - AE7VT

--
Charles J. Hargrove - N2NOV
NYC ARECS/RACES Citywide Radio Officer/Skywarn Coord.

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"Information is the oxygen of the modern age. It seeps through the walls topped by barbed wire, it wafts across the electrified borders." - Ronald Reagan

"The more corrupt the state, the more it legislates." - Tacitus

"Molann an obair an fear" - Irish Saying
(The work praises the man.)

"No matter how big and powerful government gets, and the many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers." - Ronald Reagan

110. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 11:11:48 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 104 Message: 110

The RAN does take a different approach as you suggest, and for me this is the most attractive thing about the concept.

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

----- Original Message -----
From: Paul Cavnar
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 8:19 PM
Subject: RE: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

I have set my reminder for Wednesday at 2000PST to see if I can check with Zale from Reno, NV.. I have had no success with other NBEMS nets and don't have time for a MARS commitment.

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[mailto:Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Andrew O'Brien
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To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
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On Mon, Dec 10, 2012 at 8:57 PM, Zale Archer <kc7fyd@...> wrote:

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Zale kc7fyd /nnn0hdk

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To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2012 4:49:33 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Calling?

I don't get too many responses to the calling on the bottom/top of the hour idea. Any other ideas for stimulating interest? 14065 and 7072.5 seem to be the "go to" frequencies for NBEMS activity, not much action on 60M. Again, the basic idea is to have people casually monitor a frequency when they have time, respond as needed. However, to promote the concept I am thinking we need to generate a few more signals mentioning NBEMS RAN. If anyone wants to run a formal net, let me know. Friday night seem the night without any NBEMS nets.

Andy
K3UK

111. USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 14:30:19 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 111 Message: 111

IF you were going to try set up a NBEMS system that passes traffic nationwide, what steps would you first take ? I am talking about a system that uses HF, at least until the last 50-100 miles where VHF/UHF could be used, a system that does not use Internet. As mentioned previously here, and in other groups, I am not talking about recreating some of the inane aspects of NTS, but would like to see a NBEMS network than can reliably move traffic from any region of the USA to another.

So how could we BEGIN to do this? I say "begin" because I do not expect it to happen overnight, It could take a couple of years to gradually build and promote. However, getting it off the ground is the biggest hurdle to jump. We all know of failed nets that quit after only getting 1-2 check-ins each net. Could we somehow build on existing NBEMS nets ? If we look on the NBEMSHAM Yahoogroup calendar of nets, there are 4-5 eastern states , a southern state , and a couple of mid west states. Not a whole lot. I know each net asks for check-ins with traffic, I wonder what one would do if I checked in with traffic for someone in Utah ?

Would such a network be a group of networks that typically operate within a 500 mile radius on 80 or 40M and one region feeds to the next at a later time that day? Would the network have a 1000-2000 mile range conducted on 20M where "reps" to the regions 80/40M nets check in ? Maybe a 20M feeder net 2-3 times per week to begin with ? Maybe we could then encourage stations from the regional nets (nyNBEMS, paNBEMS, miNBEMS, meNBEMS, East Coast NBEMS, VA Digital Net, etc, etc) to check in to the 20M to bring/take traffic as needed? Obviously a 20M net only 2-3 times a week is not the most efficient to ensure timely delivery, but it is a start. Then , if the concepts earns a reputation for being useful, we could expand it to be a more frequent network.

Ideas??????????????????????????????

Andy K3UK

112. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 14:56:00 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 111 Message: 112

Hi Andy,

could you first give us some of the motivation for such a system? IMO NBEMS already fulfills a need: large area message passing without the need for infrastructure. For passing messages farther than typical 100W HF range I think a combination of winlink2K and NBEMS is more suitable. Or even NBEMS and POEM (Plain Old EMail). Maybe that could be formalized? Do we have an flmsg form that allows someone to send an email request?

73s,

Sander W1SOP

On 12/11/2012 9:30 AM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> IF you were going to try set up a NBEMS system that passes traffic
> nationwide, what steps would you first take ?

113. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 15:08:11 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 111 Message: 113

Good questions.

My motivation was along the lines of showing NBEMS methods with Flmsg and Flamp are more effective than NTS. If a person said I need to get a message to XYZ in Idaho, we would have a way of getting in there without Internet. FLARQ has an email interface , so does PSKmail. I agree that WL2K is efficient but wonder about the Internet requirement.

Andy K3UK

On Tue, Dec 11, 2012 at 9:56 AM, Sander Pool <sander_pool@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
>
> Hi Andy,
>
> could you first give us some of the motivation for such a system? IMO
> NBEMS already fulfills a need: large area message passing without the
> need for infrastructure. For passing messages farther than typical 100W
> HF range I think a combination of winlink2K and NBEMS is more suitable.
> Or even NBEMS and POEM (Plain Old EMail). Maybe that could be
> formalized? Do we have an flmsg form that allows someone to send an
> email request?
>
> 73s,
>
> Sander W1SOP
>
>
> On 12/11/2012 9:30 AM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> > IF you were going to try set up a NBEMS system that passes traffic
> > nationwide, what steps would you first take ?
>
>
>

114. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 15:22:39 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 111 Message: 114

Hi Andy,

that is where the 'requirements' phase of setting up such a network comes in. If you want the system to work by using only radios then wl2k or email or phone are out. I think NTS uses (or is allowed to use) phone for the last few miles. At least I have received an NTS message that way.

Local NBEMS (paNBEMS, NY NBEMS etc) nets simulate what we would do in case our communications infrastructure gets disabled over a large area, say a few states. While it is possible to image a situation where all of the US or Europe is without comms I think it's exceedingly rare.

For me competing with NTS isn't interesting. What would motivate me is practicing for a realistic scenario where such a system would be of use. Of course we all have different motivators :-)

I practice winlink2k because it allows me to send email to family and friends outside the crater even when they are not hams (and most are not). I practice NBEMS because it allows me to communicate with people inside and just outside the crater.

Sorry for playing devil's advocate but I think the best way to gather momentum is with strong arguments for such an endeavor. I do appreciate you trying new things. Stagnation isn't good, innovation keeps things interesting.

73s,

Sander W1SOP

On 12/11/2012 10:08 AM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> My motivation was along the lines of showing NBEMS methods with Flmsg
> and Flamp are more effective than NTS. If a person said I need to get
> a message to XYZ in Idaho, we would have a way of getting in there
> without Internet. FLARQ has an email interface , so does PSKmail. I
> agree that WL2K is efficient but wonder about the Internet requirement.

115. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 16:39:55 UTC
From: Charles J. Hargrove
Topic: 111 Message: 115

My first blush is to have the NCS of each current NBEMS net be kept up to date on the freq/waterfall of each other net. As I leave my radio on the 7.036/1500 NY-NBEMS/USeast-NBEMS spot 24/7, any other NBEMS net for us can just drop the message here for our area. Hopefully each net has more than one NCS that would be on the frequency to accept messages. Otherwise, we would have to set up an automated ability to do this like packet. I am looking into the mechanics of getting my JNOS BBS to interface/accept any FLmsg files to go between the packet/FLdigi world. Otherwise, this all becomes a manual store/forward procedure. Since most NBEMS nets are weekly nets during non-emergencies (and hopefully 24 hour nets during emergencies), it would take on an extended cycle for forwarding/delivery similar to NTS nets. This definitely needs to be hashed out as far as daily/weekly activity and routing of messages.

> IF you were going to try set up a NBEMS system that passes traffic
> nationwide, what steps would you first take ? I am talking about a
> system that uses HF, at least until the last 50-100 miles where
> VHF/UHF could be used, a system that does not use Internet. As
> mentioned previously here, and in other groups, I am not talking about
> recreating some of the inane aspects of NTS, but would like to see a
> NBEMS network than can reliably move traffic from any region of the
> USA to another.
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> Ideas??????????????????????????????
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>
> Andy K3UK

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Charles J. Hargrove - N2NOV
NYC ARECS/RACES Citywide Radio Officer/Skywarn Coord.

NYC-ARECS/RACES Net Mon. @ 8:30PM 147.360/107.2 PL
http://www.nyc-arecs.org and http://www.nyc-skywarn.org

NYDXA SWL & Scanner Net Wed. @ 9PM 147.360/107.2 PL
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"The more corrupt the state, the more it legislates." - Tacitus

"Molann an obair an fear" - Irish Saying
(The work praises the man.)

"No matter how big and powerful government gets, and the many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers." - Ronald Reagan

116. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 18:42:23 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 111 Message: 116

Charlie's idea of picking up traffic passively, by leaving your rig on a certain frequency, is an interesting idea. Would we get stuck with the issue of "broadcasting" if we did thi? Also, how would we know someone picked up the traffic ? Would be interesting if Flamp had an auto respond feature but then we would get in to the "unattended " issue.

The more I give our ideas some thought, the more I like the idea of having the NCS of regional nets develop and promote their nets interdependently and the Radio Assistance Network serve as the "bridge" between nets. Dave and Charlie are good examples of how they have grown their PA and NY nets. They have done so with a cadre of local hams that spread the word until they get to the point where they regularly have a dozen or so check-ins every net . A few stragglers have come along and become regulars but I am betting that the net took off because Dave and Charlie had a few hams they already knew that could help promote the concept. I first met Dave when he was a traveling road show promoting his ideas. Charlie and I have known each other for a thousand years or so, before we even became hams.

Back to more thinking... (beats having to deal with used car dealers as my son is close to getting his first car!)

Andy K3UK
On Tue, Dec 11, 2012 at 11:39 AM, Charles J. Hargrove
<n2nov@...>wrote:

> **
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>
> My first blush is to have the NCS of each current NBEMS net be kept up to
> date on the freq/waterfall of each other net. As I leave my radio on the
> 7.036/1500 NY-NBEMS/USeast-NBEMS spot 24/7, any other NBEMS net for us can
> just drop the message here for our area. Hopefully each net has more than
> one NCS that would be on the frequency to accept messages. Otherwise, we
> would have to set up an automated ability to do this like packet. I am
> looking into the mechanics of getting my JNOS BBS to interface/accept any
> FLmsg files to go between the packet/FLdigi world. Otherwise, this all
> becomes a manual store/forward procedure. Since most NBEMS nets are weekly
> nets during non-emergencies (and hopefully 24 hour nets during
> emergencies),
> it would take on an extended cycle for forwarding/delivery similar to NTS
> nets. This definitely needs to be hashed out as far as daily/weekly
> activity
> and routing of messages.
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> > recreating some of the inane aspects of NTS, but would like to see a
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> ...
> >
> > Ideas??????????????????????????????
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> >
> > Andy K3UK
>
> --
> Charles J. Hargrove - N2NOV
> NYC ARECS/RACES Citywide Radio Officer/Skywarn Coord.
>
> NYC-ARECS/RACES Net Mon. @ 8:30PM 147.360/107.2 PL
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> "No matter how big and powerful government gets, and the many services it
> provides, it can never take the place of volunteers." - Ronald Reagan
>
>
>

117. Re: USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 19:41:19 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 111 Message: 117

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
>
> IF you were going to try set up a NBEMS system that passes traffic
> nationwide, what steps would you first take ? I am talking about a
> system that uses HF, at least until the last 50-100 miles where
> VHF/UHF could be used, a system that does not use Internet. As
> mentioned previously here, and in other groups, I am not talking about
> recreating some of the inane aspects of NTS, but would like to see a
> NBEMS network than can reliably move traffic from any region of the
> USA to another.
>
> So how could we BEGIN to do this? I say "begin" because I do not
> expect it to happen overnight, It could take a couple of years to
> gradually build and promote. However, getting it off the ground is
> the biggest hurdle to jump. We all know of failed nets that quit
> after only getting 1-2 check-ins each net. Could we somehow build on
> existing NBEMS nets ? If we look on the NBEMSHAM Yahoogroup calendar
> of nets, there are 4-5 eastern states , a southern state , and a
> couple of mid west states. Not a whole lot. I know each net asks for
> check-ins with traffic, I wonder what one would do if I checked in
> with traffic for someone in Utah ?
>
> Would such a network be a group of networks that typically operate
> within a 500 mile radius on 80 or 40M and one region feeds to the next
> at a later time that day? Would the network have a 1000-2000 mile
> range conducted on 20M where "reps" to the regions 80/40M nets check
> in ? Maybe a 20M feeder net 2-3 times per week to begin with ? Maybe
> we could then encourage stations from the regional nets (nyNBEMS,
> paNBEMS, miNBEMS, meNBEMS, East Coast NBEMS, VA Digital Net, etc,
> etc) to check in to the 20M to bring/take traffic as needed?
> Obviously a 20M net only 2-3 times a week is not the most efficient to
> ensure timely delivery, but it is a start. Then , if the concepts
> earns a reputation for being useful, we could expand it to be a more
> frequent network.
>
>
> Ideas??????????????????????????????
>
>
> Andy K3UK
>

I think perhaps you should think about adopting the NTS structure. We have lots of local and regional NBEMS nets now. What we need are regional and national nets that meet at least daily, and know how to forward traffic between them. I also think it should interact with

NTS where it's practical to do so.

On the Minnesota Digital ARES Net, we sometimes take formal NTS traffic and I take it up to the Section Phone Net the next day to put it in NTS. We have also handled NTS messages in the reverse direction.
If there was an NBEMS TRANSCON kind of net late each evening, I could just take the traffic up there.

I'd like to see a fully automated system that any ham can use to send a message, any time he wants to. I don't care if it's setting up PSKMail servers or WL2K with WINMOR. With either, it would simply be a matter of people creating an NTS formatted message, and sending it as an email to a common mailbox. Then, someone can retrieve the messages. If you use WINLINK, it can be done via radio or over the Internet. The retrieved messages would then be forwarded into the traffic handling system.

I've used WINMOR a little bit, and I like it. Others around here have used PSKMail, too.

118. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 20:07:21 UTC
From: Charles J. Hargrove
Topic: 111 Message: 118

I think part of the idea behind this is that we do not have to tie ourselves down to just an NTS formatted message. NBEMS using FLmsg has so many other formats at our disposal which means that we can choose the most apprpriate tool for the job at hand.

> I'd like to see a fully automated system that any ham can use to send a
> message, any time he wants to. I don't care if it's setting up PSKMail
> servers or WL2K with WINMOR. With either, it would simply be a matter of
> people creating an NTS formatted message, and sending it as an email to a
> common mailbox. Then, someone can retrieve the messages. If you use WINLINK,
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--
Charles J. Hargrove - N2NOV
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119. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 20:08:39 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 111 Message: 119

I like both ideas Bill and Charlie. I agree that strict NTS format can be
a little confining but as an old NTS NCS, I see the utility of the NTS
radiograms at times.

Bill, what time for a transcom net?

Andy
K3UK

On Tue, Dec 11, 2012 at 3:07 PM, Charles J. Hargrove <n2nov@...>wrote:

> **
>
>
> I think part of the idea behind this is that we do not have to tie
> ourselves
> down to just an NTS formatted message. NBEMS using FLmsg has so many other
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> > I'd like to see a fully automated system that any ham can use to send a
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120. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 20:40:57 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 111 Message: 120

Here's my 2 cents, for what that's worth.

Many NTS nets refuse to deal with anything but NTS/Radiogram format messages. Most served agencies deal with either ICS-213, their own variations on the 213 or their own message formats. The 25 word message limit of NTS/Radiogram, combined with the numbered ARL codes, is great for short messages from ham to ham or health and welfare, but that's not what most of the served agencies are looking for.

As far as Winmor goes, I've had enough experience with Winmor that I have come to the personal conclusion that it has the potential to turn into a real cluster if there's ever any kind of regional or wider disaster. I think it's safe to say that the limited resource of Winmor nodes connected to the internet for email delivery will be overwhelmed with every operator who is holding priority or emergency traffic thinking their message is the most important. The lack of human error correction with a manned NCS directing traffic, moving point to point ops off the main frequency and prioritizing message handling, is IMO, a recipe for a major cluster. I also really hate the fact that no information can be had while you're monitoring winmor from the outside looking in.

Email delivery... I'm not a fan of email even during good times, for important/time-sensitive traffic (even for my personal or business messaging). I think the lack of a confirmation of an email delivered and that it was actually read by the intended recipient, is another big problem relating to Winmor/Winlink. On the other hand, a manned NBEMS station can relay from a net to a station outside the affected area who can then in turn email the message and give the recipient a personal confirmation request that could be made either by radio, telephone or an email reply. Then the NBEMS op can transmit that confirmation, or even a spreadsheet of confirmed and waiting for confirmation emails.

Most NTS groups, to the best of my knowledge, still refuse to use email as a delivery option to the final destination.

I think the most likely scenario is an emergency or disaster affecting a region. Having the coordination of trained manned ops with NBEMS, with fall back on Winmor/Winlink capable liaison stations seems to me to be the option.

As far as NBEMS RAN goes, I think the nets should start out slow and maybe only 1 schedule per week. The likelyhood of getting enough ops involved for a daily net or several weekly nets to all show up is not very good. The last thing I think we should do it have too many schedules, with no one showing up. Under promise and over deliver. Folks will loose interest if they go to a sked 3 or 4 times and their is no one there.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Bill <k0rgr@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 2:41 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
>
> IF you were going to try set up a NBEMS system that passes traffic
> nationwide, what steps would you first take ? I am talking about a
> system that uses HF, at least until the last 50-100 miles where
> VHF/UHF could be used, a system that does not use Internet. As
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> after only getting 1-2 check-ins each net. Could we somehow build on
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> of nets, there are 4-5 eastern states , a southern state , and a
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> Ideas??????????????????????????????
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I've used WINMOR a little bit, and I like it. Others around here have used PSKMail, too.

121. New to the Group

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 20:54:40 UTC
From: bobstep
Topic: 121 Message: 121

I just found this group today and joined a couple of hours ago. This past week I have been trying to learn more about how NBEMS nets are run as we are getting ready to start one here in AZ. I have been actively involved in NTS both as a voice traffic handler and NTSD station.

What I find interesting is the attitude regarding the relationship between WL2K, NTS, and NBEMS. I don't think you can really compare them in the way that I see them compared.

WL2K and NBEMS are message passing mechanisms. They both use multiple communication protocols to pass information. They can both be used to pass NTS traffic. I don't see that NBEMS modernizes NTS. NTS is a network for passing traffic that incorporates voice, CW, and digital. I think the problem with NTS is that they are stuck on the format for passing information. NTS continues to use the radiogram format even though the served agency is more likely to use ICS forms. The NTS organization has also not worked to make sure that there network is usable in local emergency/disaster situations.

From a technology perspective, I can move more traffic using NTSD with the internet than I think can be moved with voice, CW, or NBEMS. I don't believe we need to create a network that precludes the internet. If the internet is down all over the country and world at the same time then no one will really care if traffic gets passed.

What I would like to see is a better integration of NBEMS and NTS. NBEMS is an awesome means of moving traffic from a local emergency situation to local management of the situation. It's point to point. However, sometimes the information needs to be passed further than local. I suspect today any information passed to local emergency managers is passed up the command chain via regular internet email. Wouldn't it be great if there was an easy way for NBEMS traffic to be converted to an email for the internet or WL2K without manually wrapping or attaching the file to an email. Wouldn't it be awesome if the transmitting station could specify an address for NBEMS messages so that when they are received by local emergency managers the command structure outside the local area could be copied without someone manually cutting and pasting or inserting a file in a message.

Well, that's my 2 cents and it may not be worth that since I am a relative rookie to NBEMS. I do have some experience moving information during emergency and public service situations and currently none of our existing amateur radio mechanisms work as well as they could.

Bob AF9W
EC, Oro Valley, AZ

122. RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-11 23:04:44 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 122 Message: 122

OK, feedback so far has been very much appreciated. So, I will start calling a 20M net on Sundays at 1800 UTC and on Thursday nights Friday UTC, at 0200 Hrs. Any volunteers for NCS duties when I am unavailable?Will also gladly accept offers of official net relays from stations strategically situated across the country. I picked Sunday to so as not to compete with the SATERN net on Saturdays (I may email the SATERN NCS and see if they would welcome traffic and essentially be "our" Saturday net). I usually check in to the NY and PA NBEMS nets and could bring traffic from those Saturday and Sunday nets to the transcon net Sunday afternoon. I figure that the East Coast NBEMS net on Wednesdays could also be a good net to liaise with and brig traffic to/from the Thursday net. 0200 is pushing things for 20M but wanted a reasonable west coast time.

I will call up the net on 14065 USB 1500 Hz center frequency , Olivia 8/500. I will use the tried and trusted methods of paNBEMS and Easrcoast NBEMS.

1. Call net regularly on these days/times for until end of March 2013.

2. Promote the net via bulletins and emails

First 90 day Outcome evaluation

After March 31 2013 the net will have....

1. An average of at least 7 check-ins

2. Each region of the USA will regularly be represented on the net (East Coast, Mid-West, South, Mountain, West Coast)

3. Net will have established NBEMS as an effective system for relaying traffic across the Continent in a timely manner .

4. At least two regional/state NBEMS nets will have assigned regular liaisons to the transcon net

5. At least one officially appointed NTS Digital Relay Station will have been recruited as a regular member of the net.

Not pushing our luck, that will do for 90 day goals.

Andy K3UK

Andy K3UK

123. [NBEMS RAN>] Re: USA-Wide NBEMS Traffic Delivery?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-12 23:45:30 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 111 Message: 123

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:
>
> Here's my 2 cents, for what that's worth.
>
> Many NTS nets refuse to deal with anything but NTS/Radiogram format messages. Most served agencies deal with either ICS-213, their own variations on the 213 or their own message formats. The 25 word message limit of NTS/Radiogram, combined with the numbered ARL codes, is great for short messages from ham to ham or health and welfare, but that's not what most of the served agencies are looking for.Â
>
> As far as Winmor goes, I've had enough experience with Winmor that I have come to the personal conclusion that it has the potential to turn into a real cluster if there's ever any kind of regional or wider disaster. I think it's safe to say that the limited resource of Winmor nodes connected to the internet for email delivery will be overwhelmed with every operator who is holding priority or emergency traffic thinking their message is the most important. The lack of human error correction with a manned NCS directing traffic, moving point to point ops off the main frequency and prioritizing message handling, is IMO, a recipe for a major cluster. I also really hate the fact that no information can be had while you're monitoring winmor from the outside looking in.
>
> Email delivery... I'm not a fan of email even during good times, for important/time-sensitive traffic (even for my personal or business messaging). I think the lack of a confirmation of an email delivered and that it was actually read by the intended recipient, is another big problem relating to Winmor/Winlink. On the other hand, a manned NBEMS station can relay from a net to a station outside the affected area who can then in turn email the message and give the recipient a personal confirmation request that could be made either by radio, telephone or an email reply. Then the NBEMS op can transmit that confirmation, or even a spreadsheet of confirmed and waiting for confirmation emails.
>
> Most NTS groups, to the best of my knowledge, still refuse to use email as a delivery option to the final destination.
>
> I think the most likely scenario is an emergency or disaster affecting a region. Having the coordination of trained manned ops with NBEMS, with fall back on Winmor/Winlink capable liaison stations seems to me to be the option.
>
> As far as NBEMS RAN goes, I think the nets should start out slow and maybe only 1 schedule per week. The likelyhood of getting enough ops involved for a daily net or several weekly nets to all show up is not very good. The last thing I think we should do it have too many schedules, with no one showing up. Under promise and over deliver. Folks will loose interest if they go to a sked 3 or 4 times and their is no one there.
>
> -Dave, KB3FXI
>
>

I think they both have their place.

NBEMS is perfect for tactical communications, peer to peer, in a disaster. We can handle many different kids of traffic that way, as long as the the sending station and the receiving station are in contact with each other, and we have the manpower to do it.

If those stations can't connect directly, we need the ability to relay messages - something NTS figured out how to do before the ink was dry on the W1AW license. But, this also ties up multiple hams in the process.

WINMOR has the advantage of being a store and forward system. So does PSKMail if people object to WINMOR - SMTP servers are SMTP servers. People have used VHF RTTY mailboxes for different kinds of traffic for a long time - an over the air mail server just takes that a little further and eliminates the need to relay between stations. WL2K has the advantage of having a serious infrastructure already in place.

In our recent SET, I had people focus on NBEMS, but I asked them to use WINMOR to contact us if they could not contact us directly. I can't say it worked - we had problems with NBEMS at a couple critical places - that's why we do the drills. But it should have worked for a couple of our counties that could not contact us directly on HF or VHF.

124. Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-13 00:35:10 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 122 Message: 124

FYI, I will start the net Sunday. Have a few things to get ready that
I cannot get done by Thursday.

Andy K3UK

On Tue, Dec 11, 2012 at 6:04 PM, Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
> OK, feedback so far has been very much appreciated. So, I will start
> calling a 20M net on Sundays at 1800 UTC and on Thursday nights Friday
> UTC, at 0200 Hrs. Any volunteers for NCS duties when I am
> unavailable?Will also gladly accept offers of official net relays from
> stations strategically situated across the country. I picked Sunday
> to so as not to compete with the SATERN net on Saturdays (I may email
> the SATERN NCS and see if they would welcome traffic and essentially
> be "our" Saturday net). I usually check in to the NY and PA NBEMS
> nets and could bring traffic from those Saturday and Sunday nets to
> the transcon net Sunday afternoon. I figure that the East Coast NBEMS
> net on Wednesdays could also be a good net to liaise with and brig
> traffic to/from the Thursday net. 0200 is pushing things for 20M but
> wanted a reasonable west coast time.
>
> I will call up the net on 14065 USB 1500 Hz center frequency , Olivia
> 8/500. I will use the tried and trusted methods of paNBEMS and
> Easrcoast NBEMS.
>
>
> 1. Call net regularly on these days/times for until end of March 2013.
>
> 2. Promote the net via bulletins and emails
>
> First 90 day Outcome evaluation
>
> After March 31 2013 the net will have....
>
> 1. An average of at least 7 check-ins
>
> 2. Each region of the USA will regularly be represented on the net
> (East Coast, Mid-West, South, Mountain, West Coast)
>
> 3. Net will have established NBEMS as an effective system for relaying
> traffic across the Continent in a timely manner .
>
> 4. At least two regional/state NBEMS nets will have assigned regular
> liaisons to the transcon net
>
> 5. At least one officially appointed NTS Digital Relay Station will

> have been recruited as a regular member of the net.
>
> Not pushing our luck, that will do for 90 day goals.
>
>
> Andy K3UK
>
>
> Andy K3UK

125. Definitions

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-13 01:46:19 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 125 Message: 125

Hi,

WINMOR is a modem or a low level communications protocol. It is not a system. Winlink 2000 is a system that can use arbitrary low level protocols for transport. You can not use WINMOR and Winlink 2000 interchangeably.

You would not say Olivia can transmit messages and display them in your browser on receipt. Flfigi in NBEMS mode can do that and use Olivia and many other modems. This is similar. And equally important.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OSI_model

73,

Sander W1SOP

126. Transcon net description

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-15 13:30:17 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 126 Message: 126

Here is a draft, it will change as we evolve. I will be NCS for the first net on Sunday at 1800 Z. Comments on this draft are appreciated.

Net Mission

The NBEMS Transcontinental Net exists to further the goals of local and regional NBEMS nets . Local and regional NBEMS nets provide training and preparedness skills for the delivery of emergency communications via amateur radio, mostly utilizing digital modes and methods . The methods include sophisticated error prevention processes.

The local and regional NBEMS nets are expected to be the main NBEMS nets involved in most scenarios requiring the provision of emergency communication via amateur radio. This is because most emergency/disasters are local and regional in scope. If you are a member of a local, state, or regional NBEMS net, we encourage you to use the NBEMS Transcontinental Net and affiliate your net with the NBEMS Transcontinental Net

While local and regional scenarios are excepted to be most common emcomm scenario, there exists the possibility that certain incidents my require the transmission of information from one region to another. Therefore, the Radio Assistance Network recognizes the need to establish routine practice and preparation for NBEMS communication across the United States and other parts of the North American continent.

The Radio Assistance Network acknowledges the existence of other effective methods of amateur radio emergency communication including WL2K , PSKmail, and the National Traffic System. However we believe that NBEMS methods provide unique capabilities that could be vital in an emergency.

One of the goals of NBEMS is the provision of emergency communications that is not Internet dependent, via low powered stations using basic equipment and simple antennas. To accomplish this goal when dealing with transcontinental communication , an effective method of relaying “traffic” is needed . The NBEMS Transcontinental Net will provide a skills building opportunity for radio amateurs that includes the accurate relay of communications. This will include communication using message formats used by emergency agencies like FEMA in the USA , The Red Cross and SATERN in North America. NTS-format messages can be quite an effective method, so NTS-format messages may be included in the net. This net is not an official NTS Net.

Net Structure :

Traffic passed on the net will ‘borrow” some of the NTS concepts. Traffic brought to the net will assumed to be “outgoing” traffic that is leaving a region. Example: The Pennsylvania NBEMS net would not be expected to bring traffic intended for a person or agency in Pennsylvania, since their own net would handle that task. Similarly, New Jersey stations with traffic for an agency or person in Connecticut might use the East Coast NBEMS Net to pass their traffic. However, a station in Indiana with traffic for Arizona would bring the traffic to this NBEMS Transcontinental Net. Training messages intended for any station , continent-wide, will be accepted .

A transcontinental net using low powered stations with basic antennae does provide some interesting challenges. The main challenge will be the fact most stations will not always be able to hear every station in the net. The nature of radio waves, on the selected 20M band, are such that stations within 100-400 miles of each other may be incapable of communicating . There may be other scenarios, example a station In California may hear the east coast of the USA and Canada but not hear the south east states.

Due to this phenomena, the net may use different assistant net control stations to “relay in” stations from different regions. In fact, there will be times where the Net Control Station (NCS) will not attempt to call stations within NCS’ region,. Example; an NCS in New York State will ask an ANCS in Wyoming to call for call area 1, 2, and 3 stations.

A net faced with these propagation challenges will have extended periods of time where net communication is taking place but you may not hear any signals at all. To prevent confusion and accidental multiple calls or “doubling”, This net will have a structured “net clock” that will enable net participants to coordinate the net activities. Here is an example of the net clock, net formally starts at the top of the hour on 14065 USB, 1500 Hz center frequency (plus/minus for QRM)

55 to 00 minutes : “Early” check-ins accepted by NCS , any stations NCS hears continent wide.

00 to 05 Net Call Up, preamble by NCS , calls for official Assistant Net Control Stations (ANCS) to Check ..

05-10 (If NCS is East Coast located) NCS Calls for check-ins from Call Areas , 4, 5 ,6, and 7 in USA and Canada. , and any Caribbean nations

10-15 NCS asks a Call Area 6 or 7 stations (usually an official ANCS) to call for check ins from Calls Areas 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9 in the USA and Canada.

15-25 Traffic and Bulletins are passed per NCS direction using FLMSG and or FLAMP. NCS may also ask an ANCS to “repeat” a bulletin if the

bulletin is “QST”.

25-30 NCS asks for “late check-in”.

30 Net closes formal net

31-59 Informal net begins . Questions , comments, experiments, training.

If you have traffic for the net , using the above net clock, you will know that your area will not be called for check ins until the designated time for your area. You will know that if you have traffic (or are expecting traffic) traffic passing will not begin until 15 minutes past the hour.

If you check the net frequency at 05-10 minutes past the hour and hear nothing, the net clock will tell you that call areas 4, 5 ,6, 7 are checking in and you simply may not be hearing them. The net clock will also tell you that a new region is called approximately every 5 minutes , so you may soon begin to hear net activity.

As the net evolves the methods may be revised . At times, the net will “improvise” around the usual procedures due to the unexpected. The ability to improvise is the major asset associated with amateur radio, especially NBEMS.

Andy K3UK

127. First NBEMS Transcon Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-16 19:33:12 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 127 Message: 127

Despite the usual glitches when starting a new net (my Fldigi crashing for first time in ages!), we held the first Transcontinental NBEMS Net at 1800 Z on 20M today. Thanks to NW8L for being a much needed assistant NCS. We did succeed in passing the Wrap message from FLMSG across the country using MT63 500.

Here is a zoomable map of the check ins. stations in green are NCS stations.

http://goo.gl/maps/a7tVg

As you can see, the net was quite "bi-coastal" but I think the lack of middle of the country check-ins may be more related to the fact the net is new. Stuying propagation reports from a middle of the country station during the net time

K0ASK in Kansas heard

K7PWL 20m JT65 1483 miles 18:56:00
K5JRW 20m JT65 452 miles 18:55:00
KD6MHL 20m JT65 1287 miles 18:52:58
KI7RM 20m JT65 1474 miles 18:52:58
WB4LHD 20m JT65 394 miles 18:45:59
N7MSU 20m JT65 1105 miles 18:42:59
K0SKW 20m JT65 195 miles 18:35:00
KC9EPD 20m JT65 18:33:00
W0FTP 20m JT65 518 miles 18:33:00
KB7MM 20m JT65 1467 miles 18:30:01
AE7OV 20m JT65 936 miles 18:28:58
W1TGA 20m JT65 18:16:04
VE3TTF 20m JT65 1259 kms 18:11:57
AB3MG 20m JT65 976 miles 18:09:01
ND3H 20m JT65 723 miles 18:08:02
KI4MI 20m JT65 1416 miles 18:08:02
N2YZS 20m JT65 985 miles 18:06:02
AC9BY 20m JT65 18:04:01
NC6K 20m JT65 1274 miles 18:04:01
N9APK 20m JT65 472 miles 18:03:01
K4LCM 20m JT65 1053 miles 18:01:00
WB3DPQ 20m JT65 954 miles 17:59:57

While these were low powered signals using the robust JT65A , I think a 30-40 watts Olivia signal would produce similar results. It suggests, to me, that a middle country station would be capable of hearing either the west coast NCS or East Coast NCS.

As for the net , I need to refine a few things. Took longer than I expected, Comments welcome.

Andy K3UK

128. Re: [NBEMSham] First NBEMS Transcon Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-16 23:58:23 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 128 Message: 128

I should mention that I deliberately made an effort to NOT absolutely have the net on the prepublished frequency and center frequency. Prior to the net beginning, I detected a Feld Hell signal that would have been within the 500 Hz bandwidth and moved the net so not to cause QRM.

Good to know that several others monitored the net and received the traffic.

K3UK
On Sun, Dec 16, 2012 at 5:01 PM, Steve <shansen@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I also was unavailable to check in but I left my rig on and Fldigi open.
>
> I copied K3UK and check ins from NW8L, N1EN, N1CKM and KB1OKX. I received
> one Flmsg from K3UK with no errors.
>
> Steve KB1TCE
>
>
>
>
>
>

129. Re: First NBEMS Transcon Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-17 00:03:23 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 127 Message: 129

This is MOST encouraging since I wondered about reception in the south, many thanks for taking the time to send your report. My antenna for the net was a 40M Inverted V in to a tuner for 20M, not much of an antenna. This illustrates the effectiveness of NBEMS methods, does not take a super station! I did crank the power from my usual 25 watts to 50 watts. I hope to improve my 20M signal in the enxt few days.
Andy K3UK

On Sun, Dec 16, 2012 at 3:28 PM, Paul Newman <p-newman1@...> wrote:

> Andy,
>
> I monitored the NBEMS Transcontinental Net this afternoon on 14.065 MHz
> USB, with FLDIGI (3.21.63) audio bandpass centered on 1500 Hz, using my old
> IC-730 HF transceiver, an indoor random length of wire, and acoustic
> coupling.
>
> The band conditions were not good here, but I copied the Olivia and MT63
> opmodes pretty much 90% by fussing with the FLDIGI squelch level, upper
> signal level, etc. Here is the test message, as received, at my QTH in
> Richardson, Texas (EM12px--in the "center of the country"); I had no
> checksum errors:
>
> *General Message*
> TO: all NBEMS transcom
> FROM: K3UK
> SUBJ: Thanks for try the net
> DATE: 12/16/2012
> TIME: 1317L
> MESSAGE:
>
> On this difficult weekend for the nation , I thank all for checking in at
> a time when our thoughts may be elsewhere. Regards to stations in CT and
> anyone impacted by events in Newtown.
> 73
>
>
>
>
> Thanks, 73, & continued GL with the net,
>
> Paul -- KA5TYW
> NCS Dallas NBEMS Learning Net (VHF/UHF)
>
>

>

130. Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 01:22:51 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 122 Message: 130

Is the Net still on for tonight at 0200 UTC?

73 de Marcus KD0JKM

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
>... and on Thursday nights Friday UTC, at 0200 Hrs. ...

131. Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 01:57:44 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 122 Message: 131

Yes, just got home... rushing to start it

Andy K3UK

132. Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:06:17 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 122 Message: 132

I am standing by and intermittently calling CQ NBEMS RAN at dial frequency 14065 USB , center frequency of 1500 Hz, Olivia 16/500, RxID on.

Marcus KD0JKM

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, "Andrew O'Brien" <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
>
> Yes, just got home... rushing to start it
>
> Andy K3UK
>

133. RE: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:11:35 UTC
From: Tom Kraemer
Topic: 122 Message: 133

On 14.065?

Tom K5TPK

From: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
[mailto:Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Andrew O'Brien
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2012 7:58 PM
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yes, just got home... rushing to start it

Andy K3UK

No virus found in this message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2013.0.2805 / Virus Database: 2637/5960 - Release Date: 12/14/12

134. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:15:04 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 122 Message: 134

I just called CQ a couple of times from FN31 (CT).

Sander W1SOP

On 12/20/2012 9:11 PM, Tom Kraemer wrote:
>
> On 14.065?
>

135. [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:26:07 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 122 Message: 135

QTH:
Little Rock, AR, USA
LOC EM34us

Olivia 16/500
1500 waterfall center frequency
dial frequency 14065 USB

Seeing no one on the waterfall, called CQ NBEMS RAN intermittently. Andy and others just posted on NBEMSham that they aren't seeing anyone else either.

KD0JKM clear.

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, Sander Pool <sander_pool@...> wrote:
>
>
> I just called CQ a couple of times from FN31 (CT).
>
> Sander W1SOP
>
> On 12/20/2012 9:11 PM, Tom Kraemer wrote:
> >
> > On 14.065?
> >
>

136. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:26:59 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 122 Message: 136

I heard nothing on 10.065 so I'm now listening to the MN NBMES net on 3583.5. Some are coming in strong, others not so much.

Sander W1SOP

On 12/20/2012 9:11 PM, Tom Kraemer wrote:
>
> On 14.065?
>

137. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:36:23 UTC
From: Tom Kraemer
Topic: 122 Message: 137

I've been monitoring since 0130 and have seen/heard no one. I'm in the Dallas, TX area

Tom

K5TPK

138. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:40:10 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 122 Message: 138

Anyone want to try 30m 10.135 USB, 1500 Hz center at 0300z?

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Tom Kraemer <slapshot@...t>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2012 9:36 PM
Subject: Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

I’ve been monitoring since 0130 and have seen/heard no one. I’m in the Dallas, TX area

Tom
K5TPK

139. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:45:55 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 122 Message: 139

I'm copying stations in MN and TN here in CT on 80m. The net is busy with lots of long transmissions and no calls for checkins so it's hard to find a slot to join in.

I should be able to receive OK on 30 but transmit may be a problem. I think my antenna doesn't tune there. Will try though. I will switch in the next few minutes (have to walk to the basement).

Sander W1SOP

On 12/20/2012 9:40 PM, David Kleber wrote:
> Anyone want to try 30m 10.135 USB, 1500 Hz center at 0300z?

140. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:52:29 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 122 Message: 140

I just called CQ there but the W meter says I'm only putting out about 10W so I doubt anyone will hear me. Bummer though because the band is very quiet. Reading maybe s2 noise. I'll have to put up a larger loop antenna and maybe get a tuner. Pretty miraculous my TS-2000 internal tuner can handle so many bands on my 40m doublet already.

Sander W1SOP

On 12/20/2012 9:40 PM, David Kleber wrote:
> Anyone want to try 30m 10.135 USB, 1500 Hz center at 0300z?

141. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:56:03 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 122 Message: 141

Nothing heard here in Pittsburgh. I'll hang on the spot until about 0310z.

80m was very long, so I'd guess 30m is probably dead, too.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Sander Pool <sander_pool@pobox.com>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2012 9:52 PM
Subject: Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

I just called CQ there but the W meter says I'm only putting out about
10W so I doubt anyone will hear me. Bummer though because the band is
very quiet. Reading maybe s2 noise. I'll have to put up a larger loop
antenna and maybe get a tuner. Pretty miraculous my TS-2000 internal
tuner can handle so many bands on my 40m doublet already.

Sander W1SOP

On 12/20/2012 9:40 PM, David Kleber wrote:
> Anyone want to try 30m 10.135 USB, 1500 Hz center at 0300z?

142. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 02:58:44 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 122 Message: 142

I'm not hearing anything either on 30m.

Sander W1SOP

On 12/20/2012 9:56 PM, David Kleber wrote:
> Nothing heard here in Pittsburgh. I'll hang on the spot until about 0310z.

143. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: RAD Transcontinental NBEMS Net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-21 03:02:14 UTC
From: Tom Kraemer
Topic: 122 Message: 143

Neither am I on 10.135

Tom K5TPK

144. Transcontinental NBEMS Net today at 1800Z 14065

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-23 16:31:58 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 144 Message: 144

A reminder , the Transcontinental NBEMS Net meets today at 1800Z on 14065 USB (1500 Hz) , Olivia 16/500 and other modes for traffic. This is an experimental net with the intended purpose of becoming the continental backbone net assisting the movement of traffic to/from local, state, and regional NBEMS nets. RF to RF.

Last week's Sunday net went quite well, we are still tweaking things. The preamble took too long so we will look to trim the net opening. Check in is via call areas with east, west, and mid-continent stations serve as relays and assistant net control stations (ANCS) .
Check-ins and the Establishment of the network take up the first 15 minutes. Second 15 minutes is when traffic begins to be exchanged.

Check ins today will be ... approximately

1802, Preamble and NCS calls area 0 and 9
1805 NCS calls area 4,5,6,7
1810 West coast ANCS calls call area 1,2,3 and any missed other call areas
1815 Traffic exchanged
1825 Late check-ins called by NCS and ACNS stations
1830 net closes, informal comms begin.

Give it a try. As a test, today's net will include traffic intended for a state NBEMS net that meets in a couple of days. I wonder if it will get there on time?

The net also meets at 0200 Fridays (9PM eastern, 6 PM western, Thursdays) also on 14065, band opening permitting. The Thursday/Friday net did not go well last week , the band was dead. An alternative band would normally be used but we are still experimenting with 20M.

Andy K3UK

145. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Transcontinental NBEMS Net today at 1800Z 14065

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-23 16:47:12 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 144 Message: 145

I just added this item to my gmail calendar. When you use the 'quick add' feature and say something like my quote below it actually recognizes the Zulu time and corrects for your local timezone. Pretty slick.

I'll try to attend but Sundays are a mix of lazy and hectic here so it'll be a last minute decision :)

Sander W1SOP

On 12/23/2012 11:31 AM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> Transcontinental NBEMS Net meets today at 1800Z

146. Transcon net report and after action review

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-23 20:42:25 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 146 Message: 146
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

This was a great net, "great" in that many things went wrong, lots to ponder and improve on.

Good amount of check-ins and transcon goal mostly achieved , see map at http://goo.gl/maps/zwzRk

See the attached ICS 214 form for comments or read on

Several stations report good signals with Olivia but lost comms when switched to MT63 1000

Net very slow using Olivia, faster modes may need to be considered for transcontinental nets with a lot of check-ins. Maybe even use FLAMP for this net to speed up net when trying to determine who needs fills Thinking out of the box, maybe even call up the net in Flamp and have check-ins via flamp !

Relay stations were lost mid-net. May need to re-think relay role.

Some members lost net when dragged by another RSID off net QRG

Traffic passed by one relay in a mode not clearly supported by Flmsg

Andy K3UK

147. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Transcon net report and after action review

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-23 20:48:44 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 146 Message: 147

Hi Andy,

the net was very quiet in CT at the agreed upon time. I heard W6WW, KB1OKX and KB1NEK but my call went unanswered. I'll admit I only tried once when I only barely received shreds of other checkins.

Later I came back to my computer and it had decoded your flmsg without issue.

Thanks for running the net, will try again next week.

Sander W1SOP

On 12/23/2012 3:42 PM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> This was a great net, "great" in that many things went wrong, lots to
> ponder and improve on.

148. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Transcon net report and after action review

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-23 20:53:41 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 146 Message: 148

I should add I think maps like these are a great advertising tool. A great way to show how effective a net is with the intent of gathering more momentum.

Sander W1SOP

On 12/23/2012 3:42 PM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> Good amount of check-ins and transcon goal mostly achieved , see map
> at http://goo.gl/maps/zwzRk

149. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Transcon net report and after action review

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-23 21:00:50 UTC
From: Jerry Hawley
Topic: 146 Message: 149

Very Nice Map, TNX
Jerry KG0GG

150. Re: Transcon net report and after action review

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-23 22:12:33 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 146 Message: 150

I should add, the stations with a green Icon were NCS stations.
Andy K3UK

On Sun, Dec 23, 2012 at 3:42 PM, Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...> wrote:
> This was a great net, "great" in that many things went wrong, lots to
> ponder and improve on.
>
> Good amount of check-ins and transcon goal mostly achieved , see map
> at http://goo.gl/maps/zwzRk
>
> See the attached ICS 214 form for comments or read on
>
> Several stations report good signals with Olivia but lost comms when
> switched to MT63 1000
>
> Net very slow using Olivia, faster modes may need to be considered for
> transcontinental nets with a lot of check-ins. Maybe even use FLAMP
> for this net to speed up net when trying to determine who needs fills
> Thinking out of the box, maybe even call up the net in Flamp and have
> check-ins via flamp !
>
> Relay stations were lost mid-net. May need to re-think relay role.
>
> Some members lost net when dragged by another RSID off net QRG
>
>
>
> Traffic passed by one relay in a mode not clearly supported by Flmsg
>
> Andy K3UK

151. Flamp-Flmsg net control experiments

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-24 01:32:06 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 151 Message: 151
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Yes, I need a life! If anyone has spare time tonight I am in the shack and on 7072.5 . I am toying with methods of using Flmsg and Flamp to call a net and list check-ins rather than plain text typing via the usual Fldigi method. Especially using "live" CSV templates converted to HTML at the receiver's end. The Flmsg idea seems easy so far, have not fully got my head around the flamp side to it, need a few folks to play around with how that might work.

Here is the idea so far (it my look stupid in the morning)

Net is called up via transmission of an Flamp file by NCS
Stations check in via the FLAMP report, 100% stations first ..then those that need a fill of the opening preamble
NCS then sends file number two which is a CSV file listing callsigns of those NCS had checked in and any traffic listed for the net.
NCS asks for FLAMP reports again, but only those that have 100% copy.
NCS then asks a station (or 2) that report 100% copy to resend so others not copying NCS well increase their chance of getting the net listing 100% after resends are completed, NCS id's in open text mode (no flmsg or Flamp)
Then NCS directs any traffic listed , traffic sent by Flamp and opens in flmsg .
If traffic is for a particular stations, NCS obtains report traffic was received 100% . If for all on net , NCS gets flamp reports and resends needed block (or entire file)

Digital mode used would be according to conditions but mostly using modes in the 200-300WPM range. An example flsmsg HTML view created live by nCS is attached. The info is fictitious, just an example

Andy K3UK

152. NBEMS Transcon Net today at 1800Z 14065 USB

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-30 17:02:04 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 152 Message: 152

The net has ran the last two Sundays. Check-ins from across the country have been achieved, traffic passing has been a little tricky due to the distance covered and QSB on 20M. We are still experimenting with format and ideas are welcome, See you at 1800 Z 14065.

Andy K3UK

153. Re: NBEMS Transcon Net of Sunday 30 December 2012.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-01 05:07:33 UTC
From: George McCulley
Topic: 153 Message: 153

Andy and the Net and developers: Again, a great learning experience.

Being the West Coast person was interesting while the 20 mtr band was having its way, but most was very good copy.

There was difficulty in my receiving the FLmsg. The FLmsg dialog was not opening.

I spent the day experimenting, via SX Repeater, to find solution to the issue.

Well, I did note an intermittent Z-Order issue in that FLmsg was hidden behind FLdigi. This could NOT be repeated in consecutive sessions, but was intermittent. This may occur while FLdigi is not Maximized, but in the ☐normal☐ , variable size. Or Visa-Versa. More testing required of me!

Also, there was significant ☐Short between the Headset☐ wherein I had placed FLmsg on the screen earlier during the Net. When the FLmsg was received it was ☐hidden☐ by the folder for ☐Files [yes the box was checked to open the files folder, which is about ¼ of my screen and remains such per Windows operation]. This appears as FLmsg is opened first and then the Files Folder so folder takes precedence. I hope that future releases may have the message be given precedence. I could just decide to NOT open the Files Folder. . .. your opinions are solicited as to proper operation.

This even occurred during the repeat I requested from NCS on for the retransmission of the message. So, with FLdigi, FLmsg and the Files folder all open something was bound to cover the other. I now place FLmsg on a different portion of the screen and hope the files folder stays where prescribed. I do wish FLdigi would remember its last size and placement and not open ☐almost maximized☐ with each startup.

Anyone having ideas as to best procedure for proper communication and message handling the information will be greatly appreciated.

Please, if any FLdigi developers are listening I would greatly appreciate when editing a MACRO definition the ☐Select Tag☐ selected item be placed into the Macro Text by a DOUBLE LEFT-CLICK of the mouse. Enough of having to move mouse and click on a green arrow! I do create macros on the fly during the nets to more properly respond to information requested by NCS.

Happy New Year to all! With many thanks to all the developers and group followers for making all your thoughts and inspirations available.

George, WA6TVD

154. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Definitions

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2012-12-13 12:45:08 UTC
From: Charles Brabham
Topic: 125 Message: 154

That's a good point, Sandy.

A lot of us will get modes, protocols and systems mixed up that way, from time to time.

It's best to keep a handle on our terminology, it makes it so much easier for us to understand one another and bring the discussion forward.

If one of us gets something sideways though (I'm bad about using MODE and PROTOCOL interchangably when they aren't) a lot of times you can pick up the intended meaning from the context. When we can do that, that's another thing that makes easier for us to understand one another - and bring the discussion forward without an interruption or side-issue to muddy the waters.

Getting us all on the same page about our terminology though should always be our goal.

We'll probably have to sneak up on it.

73 DE Charles, N5PVL

----- Original Message-----
From: Sander Pool
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 7:46 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] Definitions

Hi,

WINMOR is a modem or a low level communications protocol. It is not a system. Winlink 2000 is a system that can use arbitrary low level protocols for transport. You can not use WINMOR and Winlink 2000 interchangeably.

You would not say Olivia can transmit messages and display them in your browser on receipt. Flfigi in NBEMS mode can do that and use Olivia and many other modems. This is similar. And equally important.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OSI_model

73,

Sander W1SOP

155. NBEMS TRANSCON NET becomes FLAMP TRANSCON NET

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-04 01:41:45 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 155 Message: 155

With the public release of 3.21.65 of Fldigi (http://www.w1hkj.com/download.html) the recently started NBEMS Transcontinental Net held Fridays (0200 UTC) and Sundays 1800 UTC on 14065 will now be a formal FLAMP net. Since this net's inception, 20M continent-wide traffic handling has been a challenge. Especially the coordination or relays and repeats of traffic. Flamp with Flmsg is uniquely suited to this pupose. The paNBEMS group under KB3FXI's leadership has successfully tested Flamp over the past few months. Early releases were experimental and some RSID formats were not supported. Now that there is a wider release and improved RSID support, it seems like a good time to formally adopt Flamp as one of the message passing tools within a NBEMS net's toolbox. We will still need to experiment and evolve over the next few months. Please consider joining these nets.

The purpose of the Transcon Net is to practice message handling via attended modes, especially via modes that are robust and narrow in bandwidth for HF across North America. The net exists to provide a vehicle for state and local nets to pass traffic in to and out of their area. Some Flamp/Fldigi muliti carrier modes are intended for VHF and UHF but there are multi-carrier modes that fit within Canadian and USA requirements for HF. Please download the latest versions of Fldigi, Flamp, and Flmsg to ensure compatibility If you are unfamiliar with the applications, please join the nets (or other NBEMS nets) and ask as many questions as needed.

It is anticipated that traffic passed by the Transcon Net will use message forms created by Flmsg and sent via Flamp/Fldigi. The actual mode used will depend on conditions , but use of RSID should make this fairly easy to accomplish. As many of you know, Flamp will transmit a message and the receiving stations receive the message with confirmed "blocks" of data. Then "fills: are asked for by individual stations . Flamp has the ability to transmit only the missing blocks rather than repeat the entire message. In reality however, on a transcontinental net, you many find traffic sent in its entirety and repeated by assistant net control stations strategically located across the Continent. At least that is the hope, we'll see .

Andy K3UK

156. Today's 20M Net : Comments solicited

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-06 21:09:30 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 156 Message: 156

Well the first 20M Flamp attempts in this net. Mixed results, still working out which multi-carrier modes do well in QSB conditions over 1000 miles. Also had some automated Wimor to contend with , right on same frequency.

While traffic mostly got through, the net went way past 60 minutes. My personal view is nets should be no longer than 30 minutes , unless an actual emcomm drill. I am wondering if traffic sent at moderate speeds with moderately robust modes , and repeated several times by NCS and relays, will be more efficient than sending traffic in very robust modes at slow speed ? I wondering also whether check-ins at higher speed modes via regional relays may be better than taking check-ins with slow modes like Olivia 16/500 ? Maybe Flamp can get us thinking even further out of the box about check-in methods. I have a few ideas but will see if anyone else wants to offer theirs.

Andy K3UK

157. Re: [NBEMSham] Today's 20M Net : Comments solicited

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-06 22:11:32 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 156 Message: 157

Hi Andy,

We were away but I had the rig on. I got the Flamp "WW Temp Conversion" message (cute joke! - will use it on our VHF net tonight) and the Flamp from K3UK. Also the Flmsg from AA1LO.

Steve KB1TCE

On 1/6/2013 4:09 PM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
>
>
> Well the first 20M Flamp attempts in this net. Mixed results, still
> working out which multi-carrier modes do well in QSB conditions over
> 1000 miles. Also had some automated Wimor to contend with , right on
> same frequency.
>
>
> While traffic mostly got through, the net went way past 60 minutes.
> My personal view is nets should be no longer than 30 minutes , unless
> an actual emcomm drill. I am wondering if traffic sent at moderate
> speeds with moderately robust modes , and repeated several times by
> NCS and relays, will be more efficient than sending traffic in very
> robust modes at slow speed ? I wondering also whether check-ins at
> higher speed modes via regional relays may be better than taking
> check-ins with slow modes like Olivia 16/500 ? Maybe Flamp can get us
> thinking even further out of the box about check-in methods. I have a
> few ideas but will see if anyone else wants to offer theirs.
>
> Andy K3UK
>
>
>

158. Revised net format for Sunday's Transcon Net.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-12 10:37:36 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 158 Message: 158

I'm still playing around with net formats. Here is what I will be trying Sunday at 1800 UTC on 20M. This weekend I will use other NBEMS nets to test a few Flamp and Flmsg idea. One thing I have forgotten is whether a file received by Flamp will also pop-up in a browser if Flmsg is also open. One rather fundemental issue I have to experiment with is how to list traffic if using Flamp "reports" as a check-in method. it may be as simple as adding that status manually to your report info just before you press the transmit button for your report. Example

DE K3UK
File : fox.txt
<MISSING 12 5803>{FB17}4 5 6
DE K3UK 1 Net K

or

DE K3UK
File : fox.txt
<MISSING 15 9DA0>{FB17}CONFIRMED
DE K3UK 1 net K

Comments welcome.

Andy K3UK

Times are approximate.

00 Net Opens with "this is the Transcon Net" in open mode, using Olivia 8/500 and RSID at 1500 Hz center frequency

01 NCS sends a "CQ" file for the net using Flamp with RSID. Using a mode 100-200 WPM range
.
03 Receiving stations send a Flamp generated report back to NCS . This report contains callsign and reception details. NCS uses this information to determine who received the CQ file 100%, and who had missing blocks . This allows NCS to determine how signals are propagating and enables the NCS to select relay stations to assist NCS. All stations should be prepared for NCS to ask if you can assume relay duties. Any station can decline, so no pressure to accept.

04 NCS may ask relay stations to re-transmit the CQ file and relay stations will then also accept additional check ins via Flamp report to the relay station.

05 Relay stations use FLAMP to send a file containing the callsigns of additional stations heard.

06 NCS sends a revised list of stations that have been checked in to the net via Flamp file transfer. All stations are expected to report back via Flamp to NCS or relay stations

10 NCS asks for checkins via slower , more robust mode, Usually Olivia 8/500. NCS may also ask relay station to assist.

15 Traffic for net is sent via Flamp, none flamp messages may also be included. Traffic can consists of informational bulletins or formal messages . This can include NTS traffic or traffic to be relayed to local/state NBEMS nets.

20 NCS asks for additional check in-via Olivia 5/800

25 net questions/ comments

30 net closes

159. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Revised net format for Sunday's Transcon Net.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-12 16:32:13 UTC
From: Sander Pool
Topic: 158 Message: 159

Hi Andy,

the easiest way to test this is to record a transmission and play it
back to yourself. Fldigi has those capabilities built in.

Last time I used flamp it did not save files automatically nor did flamp
open automatically. It isn't as integrated as flmsg for some reason.
Maybe this has changed.

Sander W1SOP

On 1/12/2013 5:37 AM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> One thing I have
> forgotten is whether a file received by Flamp will also pop-up in a
> browser if Flmsg is also open.

160. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Revised net format for Sunday's Transcon Net.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-12 18:08:52 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 158 Message: 160

Thanks, I forgot about that feature. I just played it back, Flamp receives a message I had previously captured but does not appear to indicate the blocks received via this method. Flsmsg does nothing, so I suspect there is no integration.

Andy K3UK

On Sat, Jan 12, 2013 at 11:32 AM, Sander Pool <sander_pool@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
>
> Hi Andy,
>
> the easiest way to test this is to record a transmission and play it
> back to yourself. Fldigi has those capabilities built in.
>
> Last time I used flamp it did not save files automatically nor did flamp
> open automatically. It isn't as integrated as flmsg for some reason.
> Maybe this has changed.
>
> Sander W1SOP
>
>
> On 1/12/2013 5:37 AM, Andrew O'Brien wrote:
> > One thing I have
> > forgotten is whether a file received by Flamp will also pop-up in a
> > browser if Flmsg is also open.
>
>
>

161. 20M Transcon Net back-up band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-20 02:24:58 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 161 Message: 161

I received an email last week suggesting that the 20M Transcon Net consider using something like a 40M frequency for alternate net activity when 20M is in bad shape. I had been trying to avoid that logical development so that net operations did not get too complicated. It is , however, a valid suggestion. So. during the net on Sundays (1800 Z and Friday (0200 Z) I may ask designated stations to listen on 7072.5 for relays.

Last Sunday's net used Flamp as advertised. Sending traffic via a moderately fast mode worked quite well. Asking for check-ins via Flamp was not really well tested because we had few check-ins. We'll see what happens this Sunday.

Andy K3UK

162. Need NCS for this Sunday's Transcon net

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-01-26 20:39:19 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 162 Message: 162

I will be unable to take the NCS duties tomorrow at 1800 UTC, any volunteers ?

Andy K3UK

163. Transcontinental Flamp/NBEMS Net today 1800 UTC

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-03 15:18:14 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 163 Message: 163

A reminder the Transcontinental Flamp/NBEMS Net is today 1800 UTC on 14065 USB (Dial) plus 1500 Hz center frequency . The next exists as a supplement to your regional/state/local NBEMS nets and the purpose is to practice long distance traffic passing using Flamp and Flmsg. Mode varies according to conditions

Andy K3UK

164. Transcon Net. Stumbled on a good process today

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-10 19:36:17 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 164 Message: 164

As many of you know, we have been trying the 20M Transcontinental NBEMS Net as part of a 90 day trial. Many tweaks have been tried and suggested as 20M has not been in good shape and slow digital modes with relays provide many challenges to the concept of transcontinental traffic handling via a live net. Since the start of the experiment, Flamp has been added to the tool box. We also formally began a after-net move to 40M for regional follow-up to the transcontinental communications..

The events of today proved interesting. The net was called on 20M and again fair to poor conditions were experienced. We also has a Winmor station passing traffic on the usual net frequency. We move down the band, RSID works well for net members when NCS is off the usual frequency. Traffic for the net has been infrequent of late and I, as NCS, , forgot to ask for stations with traffic. After a few check-ins AD5XJ broke in with traffic that we took immediately. AD5XJ recognized the conditions and chose MFSK32 to send FLAMP traffic . FLAMP's abuilty to send just a missing block or two proved invaluable for the weak signals and QSB.

After closing the 20M net, as announced last week, I moved to 7072.5, made sure the frequency was not in use, then re-sent the Tornado Watch traffic that AD5XJ had sent. Two regional stations in NY and PA responded . One with a 100% report and one requesting fills. I asked the PA station to send the traffic and not only did the NY station acknowledged 100% copy but a "new" station, one in Virginia, responded with a 100% report.

So, it seems to me that we have a good process here,
for transcontinental to regional traffic passing. It is not rocket science , other nets like NTS do the same. What I am beginning to think is different though, is perhaps not always running the net the traditional way, where we take up time asking for check-ins. When I moved to 40M, I did not call a net. I just announced my presence and then sent the Flamp traffic.

More to think about, but I will add one more thing. The NBEMS folks have a winner in Flamp, and a winner in the sense that 14065 and 7072.5 have become de facto frequencies for NBEMS communications.

Andy K3UK

165. Re: Transcon Net. Stumbled on a good process today

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-11 00:04:57 UTC
From: George McCulley
Topic: 164 Message: 165

NBEMS TransCon Net: In the Stumbled on a good process today, Sunday, 10 Feb 1023, Andy, K3UK indicated:

"We also has a Winmor station passing traffic on the usual net frequency."

The Winmor and Pactor frequencies are published on the Winlink.org website. Perhaps NCS might review the proposed frequencies from "Known" sources before using them. Recently I was asked to QSY down from the selected 1,500 Waterfall to 1,000 Waterfall, which I promptly did, along with my contact. This was due to a request of another ham that the 1,500 would interfere with a Pactor/Winmor station. I later determined this to be valid.

By the way, the Winmor/Pactor Frequency of 14.0665 (NBEMS Net @ 14.065 + 1,500 = 14.0665) is none other than KN6KB the "inventor" of Winmor.

Regards,

George WA6TVD

Washoe County, NV ARES

WA6TVD@...

166. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: Transcon Net. Stumbled on a good process today

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-11 00:14:24 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 164 Message: 166

I wanted to use 14065 because it is also used by a few other NBEMS nets. I use Winmor regularly but have not heard activity on 14065 before. My point was similar to yours, that an NBEMS net should always be flexible enough to QSY and the software we use makes it quite easy. Rick has been a good friend over the years, I am glad we caused him no issues. The busy detect in RMS Express works well enough that his server would handle a busy frequency quite well.

Andy K3UK

On Sun, Feb 10, 2013 at 7:04 PM, George McCulley <wa6tvd@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> NBEMS TransCon Net: In the *Stumbled on a good process today, *Sunday,
> 10 Feb 1023, Andy, K3UK indicated:****
>
> *“We also has a Winmor station passing traffic on the usual net
> frequency.”*
>
> ** **
>
> The Winmor and Pactor frequencies are published on the Winlink.org
> website. Perhaps NCS might review the proposed frequencies from “Known”
> sources before using them. Recently I was asked to QSY down from the
> selected 1,500 Waterfall to 1,000 Waterfall, which I promptly did, along
> with my contact. This was due to a request of another ham that the 1,500
> would interfere with a Pactor/Winmor station. I later determined this to
> be valid.****
>
> ** **
>
> By the way, the Winmor/Pactor Frequency of 14.0665 (NBEMS Net @ 14.065 +
> 1,500 = 14.0665) is none other than KN6KB the “inventor” of Winmor.****
>
> ** **
>
> Regards,****
>
> ** **
>
> *George WA6TVD***
>
> *Washoe County, NV ARES***
>

> *WA6TVD@...***
>
> ****
>
> ** **
>
>
>

167. Re: [NBEMSham] Transcon Net. Stumbled on a good process today

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-11 13:21:14 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 167 Message: 167

Try telling that to W1AW ! They always ignore that "rule". No, in this case. the Winmor station was transmitting first and has every right to be there. I was just pointying out that this net will always do as you suggest Additionally, I was pointing out that RSID makes it easier for a net to be found when the announced frequency cannot be used.

Andy K3UK

On Mon, Feb 11, 2013 at 4:44 AM, Larry Levesque <ka1vgm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> And no one owns any frequency in the amateur bands.
>
> If the frequency is being used, the Winmor stations should not be
> transmitting.
> On Feb 10, 2013 7:10 PM, "George McCulley" <wa6tvd@...> wrote:
>
>> **
>>
>>
>> NBEMS TransCon Net: In the *Stumbled on a good process today, *Sunday,
>> 10 Feb 1023, Andy, K3UK indicated:****
>>
>> *“We also has a Winmor station passing traffic on the usual net
>> frequency.”*
>>
>> ** **
>>
>> The Winmor and Pactor frequencies are published on the Winlink.org
>> website. Perhaps NCS might review the proposed frequencies from “Known”
>> sources before using them. Recently I was asked to QSY down from the
>> selected 1,500 Waterfall to 1,000 Waterfall, which I promptly did, along
>> with my contact. This was due to a request of another ham that the 1,500
>> would interfere with a Pactor/Winmor station. I later determined this to
>> be valid.****
>>
>> ** **
>>
>> By the way, the Winmor/Pactor Frequency of 14.0665 (NBEMS Net @ 14.065
>> + 1,500 = 14.0665) is none other than KN6KB the “inventor” of Winmor.****
>>
>> ** **
>>
>> Regards,****

```
>>
>> ** **
>>
>> *George WA6TVD***
>>
>> *Washoe County, NV ARES***
>>
>> *WA6TVD@...***
>>
>> ****
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>> ** **
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168. Today's Transcontinental NBEMS Net .. alternate band

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-17 17:21:42 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 168 Message: 168

The net on 14065 will have competition today from CW contest stations on the band. 18103 (plus 1500 Hz center frequency) will be used as an alternate net frequency.

Net will call up at 1800 Z on 14065 or thereabouts (plus 1500)
Net will attempt usual check in procedures on 14065 and pass traffic via Flamp using RSID.

Around 1815 NCS will arrange for someone to call the Net on 18103 , or thereabouts . If 20M is bad, with heavy QRM, NCS may move net to 18103 USB.

As usual, around 1830 after main transcontinental net closes, you are encouraged to move to the regional NBEMS frequency 7072.5 USB and re-transmit any Transcon Net traffic for those unable to receive on 20m or 17M.

Andy K3UK

169. Re: Today's Transcontinental NBEMS Net .. alternate band

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-17 22:17:11 UTC
From: Marcus KD0JKM
Topic: 168 Message: 169

Andy & group,

I'd love to participate in the Net, but have never and will never be able to at the current time of 1800 Z as I have regular obligations at that time which can not be moved.
Is there any interest by participant(s) of the 1800 Z net to repeat the messages at 2200 Z or later? This would be ideal for me. Thank you.

73 de Marcus KD0JKM

170. 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-19 03:17:14 UTC
From: Marcus
Topic: 170 Message: 170

All,

Allow me to repost a message from HFPack which I found most interesting. Anyone here tried 60m for local digital comms? Tried it above 300 Baud? How about: "A typical Emcomm Incident Command System message "Form ICS-213" can be passed error-free in a matter of seconds."?!

73 de Marcus KD0JKM

FCC 5MHz: High Speed HF Emcomm - No Baud Limit
Sun Feb 17, 2013 8:01 pm (PST) . Posted by:"expeditionradio" expeditionradioUSA's FCC rules for 5MHz do not contain any
digital 300 baud symbol rate limitation, unlike
other HF ham bands. Instead, the 60 meter band
channels have a transmit bandwidth limit of 2.8kHz.
The rule that took effect about a year ago, on
05 MARCH 2012, allows digital data transmission.

The same QSO can be a mix of voice SSB, images, and data;
this feature is not available on other HF bands.

This provides a wonderful opportunity for the fastest
HF data traffic using regional comms in Emcomm scenarios.
Speeds up to about 10kbps are possible. A typical
Emcomm Incident Command System message "Form ICS-213"
can be passed error-free in a matter of seconds.

The 5MHz ham channels are perfect for various modems,
such as PACTOR3, PACTOR4, and the MIL-STD 188-110
PSK-2400 waveforms, and others that have 2.8kHz
or less bandwidth.

Automatically Controlled Data Stations are not
allowed, however. So, any use of 5MHz must be with
an operator active on both sides of the QSO.

5MHz was established to serve Emcomm. It is important
that all ham operators involved with HF Emcomm increase
their capability for the 5MHz 60 meter band for base,
mobile, and portable operation. These channels are
also open for the possibility of Interoperability
during emergencies with other disaster response
agencies and organizations.

In 2004, the FCC changed its general policy for
issuing Emergency Communications Declarations (ECD)
on Amateur Radio Service frequencies. ECDs typically
are issued to temporarily protect certain frequencies

for emergency net use only. The policy says that ECDs may now be issued for one or two 5MHz channels and/or VHF/UHF frequencies. Prior to this policy, ECDs typically were issued during weather-related and wildfire emergencies for frequencies in the 75 and 40 meter bands.

More information:
http://hflink.com/5mhz/

Bonnie Crystal KQ6XA

171. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-19 03:38:56 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 170 Message: 171

Wow ! Is it really NOT limited to 300 baud ?

Andy K3UK

On Mon, Feb 18, 2013 at 10:17 PM, Marcus <kd0jkm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> All,
>
> Allow me to repost a message from HFPack which I found most interesting.
> Anyone here tried 60m for local digital comms? Tried it above 300 Baud? How
> about: "A typical Emcomm Incident Command System message "Form ICS-213" can
> be passed error-free in a matter of seconds."?!
>
> 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>
>
>
>
> FCC 5MHz: High Speed HF Emcomm - No Baud Limit<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hfpack/mess
age/50118;_ylc=X3oDMTJybDltdDU0BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzI0NjA2NjEEZ3Jwc3BJZAMxNzA1MDgzNjY
zBG1zZ0lkAzUwMTE4BHNlYwNkbXNnBHNsawN2bXNnBHN0aW1lAzEzNjEyNDE1Mjk->
> Sun Feb 17, 2013 8:01 pm (PST) . Posted by:"expeditionradio"
> expeditionradio<expeditionradio@...?subject=Re%3A%20FCC%205MHz%3A%20High%20Speed%20HF%20
Emcomm%20-%20No%20Baud%20Limit>
> USA's FCC rules for 5MHz do not contain any
> digital 300 baud symbol rate limitation, unlike
> other HF ham bands. Instead, the 60 meter band
> channels have a transmit bandwidth limit of 2.8kHz.
> The rule that took effect about a year ago, on
> 05 MARCH 2012, allows digital data transmission.
>
> The same QSO can be a mix of voice SSB, images, and data;
> this feature is not available on other HF bands.
>
> This provides a wonderful opportunity for the fastest
> HF data traffic using regional comms in Emcomm scenarios.
> Speeds up to about 10kbps are possible. A typical
> Emcomm Incident Command System message "Form ICS-213"
> can be passed error-free in a matter of seconds.
>
> The 5MHz ham channels are perfect for various modems,
> such as PACTOR3, PACTOR4, and the MIL-STD 188-110
> PSK-2400 waveforms, and others that have 2.8kHz

> or less bandwidth.
>
> Automatically Controlled Data Stations are not
> allowed, however. So, any use of 5MHz must be with
> an operator active on both sides of the QSO.
>
> 5MHz was established to serve Emcomm. It is important
> that all ham operators involved with HF Emcomm increase
> their capability for the 5MHz 60 meter band for base,
> mobile, and portable operation. These channels are
> also open for the possibility of Interoperability
> during emergencies with other disaster response
> agencies and organizations.
>
> In 2004, the FCC changed its general policy for
> issuing Emergency Communications Declarations (ECD)
> on Amateur Radio Service frequencies. ECDs typically
> are issued to temporarily protect certain frequencies
> for emergency net use only. The policy says that ECDs
> may now be issued for one or two 5MHz channels and/or
> VHF/UHF frequencies. Prior to this policy, ECDs
> typically were issued during weather-related and
> wildfire emergencies for frequencies in the 75 and
> 40 meter bands.
>
> More information:
> http://hflink.**com/5mhz/ <http://hflink.com/5mhz/>
>
> Bonnie Crystal KQ6XA
>
>
>

172. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-19 03:44:25 UTC
From: David Kleber
Topic: 170 Message: 172

From the limited testing I've done on 60m, it's proved to be a great band.

The drawback, and my hesitation for it's use with paNBEMS (which we do list 60m ch 2 and 4 as backup freqs to our 40 and 80m spots), is that we only have 5 channels to work with and the regulations dictate ops only at 1500 hz center, which is quite limiting.

I've considered doing some bulletin skeds with NBEMS and FLMSG and/or FLAMP on 60m but I have some reservations on doing so for fear that the channels will be in use.

-Dave, KB3FXI

From: Marcus <kd0jkm@...>
To: Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, February 18, 2013 10:17 PM
Subject: [NBEMS RAN>] 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

All,

Allow me to repost a message from HFPack which I found most interesting. Anyone here tried 60m for local digital comms? Tried it above 300 Baud? How about: "A typical Emcomm Incident Command System message "Form ICS-213" can be passed error-free in a matter of seconds."?!

73 de Marcus KD0JKM

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Sun Feb 17, 2013 8:01 pm (PST) . Posted by:
"expeditionradio" expeditionradio
USA's FCC rules for 5MHz do not contain any
digital 300 baud symbol rate limitation, unlike
other HF ham bands. Instead, the 60 meter band
channels have a transmit bandwidth limit of 2.8kHz.
The rule that took effect about a year ago, on
05 MARCH 2012, allows digital data transmission.

The same QSO can be a mix of voice SSB, images, and data;
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This provides a wonderful opportunity for the fastest
HF data traffic using regional comms in Emcomm scenarios.
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Emcomm Incident Command System message "Form ICS-213"
can be passed error-free in a matter of seconds.

The 5MHz ham channels are perfect for various modems,
such as PACTOR3, PACTOR4, and the MIL-STD 188-110
PSK-2400 waveforms, and others that have 2.8kHz
or less bandwidth.

Automatically Controlled Data Stations are not allowed, however. So, any use of 5MHz must be with an operator active on both sides of the QSO.

5MHz was established to serve Emcomm. It is important that all ham operators involved with HF Emcomm increase their capability for the 5MHz 60 meter band for base, mobile, and portable operation. These channels are also open for the possibility of Interoperability during emergencies with other disaster response agencies and organizations.

In 2004, the FCC changed its general policy for issuing Emergency Communications Declarations (ECD) on Amateur Radio Service frequencies. ECDs typically are issued to temporarily protect certain frequencies for emergency net use only. The policy says that ECDs may now be issued for one or two 5MHz channels and/or VHF/UHF frequencies. Prior to this policy, ECDs typically were issued during weather-related and wildfire emergencies for frequencies in the 75 and 40 meter bands.

More information:
http://hflink. com/5mhz/

Bonnie Crystal KQ6XA

173. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-20 20:43:42 UTC
From: Chris Myers
Topic: 170 Message: 173

Some time last year I made a QSO with Andy, K3UK, on 60m and it worked well. Since then I check out the band once in a while, and usually find at least one channel free.

A draw back for some hams is the equipment they own, such as my FT-897, is hard wired to keep transmissions strictly within the specs of the old rules. Modifying the radio to work with the new rules requires carefully removing and resoldering some surface mount jumpers, not for the faint of heart.

I would like to see more experimentation with the band, especially if we really can use faster digital modes.

Chris Myers, KB1NEK

--- In Radioassistancenetwork@yahoogroups.com, David Kleber <kb3fxi@...> wrote:
>
> From the limited testing I've done on 60m, it's proved to be a great band.
>
> The drawback, and my hesitation for it's use with paNBEMS (which we do list 60m ch 2 and 4 as backup freqs to our 40 and 80m spots), is that we only have 5 channels to work with and the regulations dictate ops only at 1500 hz center, which is quite limiting.
>
> I've considered doing some bulletin skeds with NBEMS and FLMSG and/or FLAMP on 60m but I have some reservations on doing so for fear that the channels will be in use.
>
> -Dave, KB3FXI
>
>
>

174. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-21 02:06:50 UTC
From: kd0jkm
Topic: 170 Message: 174

I am in Little Rock, AR.

Is there anyone in the 60m band propagation zone around me to run some tests?

73 de Marcus KD0JKM

> I would like to see more experimentation with the band, especially if we really can use faster digital modes.
>
> Chris Myers, KB1NEK
>

175. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-21 03:03:04 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 170 Message: 175

I am running 5 watts via JT9 tonight on 5357 and have good results

Andy K3UK

On Wed, Feb 20, 2013 at 9:06 PM, kd0jkm <kd0jkm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I am in Little Rock, AR.
>
> Is there anyone in the 60m band propagation zone around me to run some
> tests?
>
> 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>
>
> > I would like to see more experimentation with the band, especially if we
> really can use faster digital modes.
> >
> > Chris Myers, KB1NEK
> >
>
>
>

176. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] 60m band as local alternative to current 40m band?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-21 10:20:20 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 170 Message: 176

I was on 5357 (1500 center frequency) all night and heard very little traffic, so it is perhaps a good channel to use. 5 watts to the west coast was easy.

Andy K3UK

On Wed, Feb 20, 2013 at 10:03 PM, Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...> wrote:

> I am running 5 watts via JT9 tonight on 5357 and have good results
>
> Andy K3UK
>
>
> On Wed, Feb 20, 2013 at 9:06 PM, kd0jkm <kd0jkm@...> wrote:
>
>> **
>>
>>
>> I am in Little Rock, AR.
>>
>> Is there anyone in the 60m band propagation zone around me to run some
>> tests?
>>
>> 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>>
>>
>> > I would like to see more experimentation with the band, especially if
>> we really can use faster digital modes.
>> >
>> > Chris Myers, KB1NEK
>> >
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>

177. Notes from today's transcon net : MFSK32 good

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-02-24 18:52:45 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 177 Message: 177

Poor conditions on 20M Transcon Net today. Texas stations unable to copy FLAMP traffic via PSK125RC4 or Olivia 4/500. MFSK32 worked well though.

Andy K3UK

178. Re: [NBEMSham] Re: Today's Radio Assistance Network

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-03-01 04:21:53 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 178 Message: 178

I was on 14065 until 1015 PM and then 7072.5 from 1015 to 1030, no takers at all.

Good comments, I do like ALE and think it is a vastly under used tool. Let me give it some thought on how it could supplement our goals. ALE soundings are controversial among many NBEMS advocates. You don't need pilot stations at all, they are useful but that concept is not used in Govt ALE. You just need soundings to make it work. Conceptually, it would work like this.

NBEMS members scan specified frequencies on several bands. All bands are scanned within a specified time, 15 seconds or so,

NBEMS members would "sound" , usually once an hour. These "soundings" are used by receiving stations that build a database of who is heard , what time, what band, what signal quality. This is done 'automatically. A sounding amounts to nothing more than a quick digital ID lasting around 15 seconds , one on each band during that hour.

For it to "work", you need folks to scan and sound regularly throughout the day. That way you build a good analysis of band openings. It is not "essential" that everybody does this, just a few stations sounding and scanning limits the effectiveness

The sophisticated part, one I have tried to test with NBEMS members but never had a volunteers, is that ALE can be used to call up a net in a specified order and can call up net members on DIFFERENT bands using known known signal reports .

So, what we have learned in the past few months is that NBEMS methods using Fldigi and Flamp work well when group of stations are in a 100-400 mile radius but it is very hit and miss for 2000-3000 mile trans continental nets due to vastly changing bands and generally poor propagation . 40M and 80M NBEMS has been a regional success and, as some predicted, 20M has not been a success.

The original idea was to move traffic via narrow band modes , continent wide. It has occurred to me, when sending traffic multiple times to a station that is very weak, that it would be much simpler to stick the traffic in a WL2K mail box (Winmor HF) . That still relies on Internet though. I thought of PSKmail, that too requires Internet except for limited "local mail".

I am not sure what ALE could really do in terms of traffic passing, but it might be useful for propagation studies and ways to quickly determine which bands are likely open for long haul traffic passing. The original concept being.. someone has emergency traffic than needs to get

several thousand miles without Internet hops. Regional net to regional net
(a la NTS) would be fine but we have not spurred many regional nets in
to existence.

Andy K3UK

On Thu, Feb 28, 2013 at 10:50 PM, Marcus KD0JKM <kd0jkm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Don & group,
>
> The back and forth with having "bad" propagation conditions makes me
> wonder time and time again, if a flexible ALE network were not the better
> way to go.
> Only "problem" that I have been unable to solve is that 24/7 Pilot
> Stations need to exist - or do they really have to exist 24/7? Can one not
> use ALE ad-hoc and just do the sounding at a given time, so as to identify
> the most optimal frequency?
> Any better suggestions for the RAN to have a better way of finding ones
> contacts when a certain band is bad?
>
> vy 73 de Marcus KD0JKM
>
>
>

179. Re: [NBEMS RAN>] Re: [NBEMSham] Re: Today's Radio Assistance Network

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-03-01 11:09:34 UTC
From: Charles J. Hargrove
Topic: 178 Message: 179

Andy, et al:

Let's get the administrators of the various regional NBEMS nets to share the typical reach of each net to get an idea where we can cover and/or overlap. For example, the NY-NBEMS & USeast-NBEMS nets can usually cover call areas 1-4/8&9/VE1-3 depending on MUF propagation. Once ina while we get check-ins from 5, 6, 0 and the Caribbeaan. Of course there are "doughnut" coverage patterns from time-to-time, but that can be resolved with one or two relays.

> I am not sure what ALE could really do in terms of traffic passing, but it
> might be useful for propagation studies and ways to quickly determine which
> bands are likely open for long haul traffic passing. The
> original concept being.. someone has emergency traffic than needs to get
> several thousand miles without Internet hops. Regional net to regional net
> (a la NTS) would be fine but we have not spurred many regional nets in
> to existence.

--
Charles J. Hargrove - N2NOV
NYC ARECS/RACES Citywide Radio Officer/Skywarn Coord.

NYC-ARECS/RACES Net Mon. @ 8:30PM 147.360/107.2 PL
http://www.nyc-arecs.org and http://www.nyc-skywarn.org

NYDXA SWL & Scanner Net Wed. @ 9PM 147.360/107.2 PL
http://www.n2nov.net

"Information is the oxygen of the modern age. It seeps through the walls topped by barbed wire, it wafts across the electrified borders." - Ronald Reagan

"The more corrupt the state, the more it legislates." - Tacitus

"Molann an obair an fear" - Irish Saying
(The work praises the man.)

"No matter how big and powerful government gets, and the many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers." - Ronald Reagan

180. Pick up NCS duties today?

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-03-10 16:00:15 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 180 Message: 180

I will not be able to make it home to be NCS for today's Transcon Net,
if you would like to try NCS duties please pick it up.

Andy K3UK

181. NCS "app" complete, testing tonight 5/11 PM eastern

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-03-22 16:33:00 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 181 Message: 181
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Well, after a couple of weeks head scratching, and toying with Google Docs concepts, I am ready to test the digital net control application. Joe N8FQ , the master of php code, developed the idea of Incorporated it in to my sked pages. This achieves what I had as the original goal, a simple web based NCS application...no software needed. Net Control simply logs in to my sked pages at http://obriensweb.com/sked/index.php?board=digitalradio , and via pre-arrangement the NCS has special access to a Net Control Window (see attachment 2) . Other members of the net would simple go to http://obriensweb.com/sked/index.php?board=digitalradio and would see that the net is active , colors would indicate which station is active on the net. Net members would be able to chat on-line during the net, to the whole group or via a private message.

Of course, this adds the irony of adding an Internet supplement to an NBEMS net. I agree we would want the net to not be dependent of anything Internet related, but this is intended to assist the net when the Internet is working. It could be especially helpful for long hall digital nets when members of the net can experience several minutes of silence and be uncertain what is actually happening on the net. Using this app, they would be able to see "who is up". Some items like net report functions and logging options will eventually be added.

Meanwhile, I will test it on a special net at 5PM Eastern tonight and again at 11PM eastern on 7072.5 If you have a net you would like to use this feature for, please email me and I will add you to the list of official NCS stations.

Andy K3UK

182. Re: [K3UKSKED] NCS "app" complete, testing tonight 5/11 PM eastern [2 Attachments]

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-03-22 22:28:36 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 181 Message: 182

OK, it worked, a few items need tweaking. Thanks to those that helped the test

Andy K3UK

On Fri, Mar 22, 2013 at 12:33 PM, Andrew O'Brien <k3ukandy@...> wrote:

> **
>
> [Attachment(s) <#13d92f2694fff542_TopText> from Andrew O'Brien included
> below]
>
> Well, after a couple of weeks head scratching, and toying with Google
> Docs concepts, I am ready to test the digital net control application.
> Joe N8FQ , the master of php code, developed the idea of Incorporated
> it in to my sked pages. This achieves what I had as the original
> goal, a simple web based NCS application...no software needed. Net
> Control simply logs in to my sked pages at
> http://obriensweb.com/sked/index.php?board=digitalradio , and via
> pre-arrangement the NCS has special access to a Net Control Window
> (see attachment 2) . Other members of the net would simple go to
> http://obriensweb.com/sked/index.php?board=digitalradio and would see
> that the net is active , colors would indicate which station is active
> on the net. Net members would be able to chat on-line during the net,
> to the whole group or via a private message.
>
> Of course, this adds the irony of adding an Internet supplement to an
> NBEMS net. I agree we would want the net to not be dependent of
> anything Internet related, but this is intended to assist the net when
> the Internet is working. It could be especially helpful for long hall
> digital nets when members of the net can experience several minutes of
> silence and be uncertain what is actually happening on the net. Using
> this app, they would be able to see "who is up". Some items like net
> report functions and logging options will eventually be added.
>
> Meanwhile, I will test it on a special net at 5PM Eastern tonight
> and again at 11PM eastern on 7072.5 If you have a net you would like
> to use this feature for, please email me and I will add you to the
> list of official NCS stations.
>
> Andy K3UK
>
>

183. Transcon net time

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-03-24 16:33:44 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 183 Message: 183

I forgot to make it clear about the Sunday net time following the seasonal time change in North America. The net will stay at 1PM eastern for this week. I will decide the future times after reviewing some net data this week.

Andy K3UK

184. Transcon outcome evaluation

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-03-24 16:44:37 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 184 Message: 184

When we started the Transcon Net , I established some goals. I said I would evaluate by end of March, here is my assessment to date.

1. Call net regularly on these days/times for until end of March 2013. Net held each week as published.

2. Promote the net via bulletins and emails **** Done

..

3. An average of at least 7 check-ins ********** not achieved , Average is about 4

4 . Each region of the USA will regularly be represented on the net (East Coast, Mid-West, South, Mountain, West Coast)

* Partially achieved, Not all regions are represented at each net

3. Net will have established NBEMS as an effective system for relaying traffic across the Continent in a timely manner .

*** not achieved, poor conditions and low checks in make hard to measure. Often traffic was started but stations receiving traffic were lost to deep QSB.

4. At least two regional/state NBEMS nets will have assigned regular liaisons to the transcon net

*** Not achieved , not very active involvement from other nets

5. At least one officially appointed NTS Digital Relay Station will have been recruited as a regular member of the net.

*** not achieved

185. Boston MA, communications.

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-04-15 20:58:20 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 185 Message: 185

I an sure Boston's infrastructure can handle emergency communications, but there some reports of overwhelmed circuits Hams may want to monitor 7072.5 in the event health and welfare traffic is generated.

Andy K3UK

186. Large quake in Asia

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-04-16 12:11:04 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 186 Message: 186

FYI a large quake has impacted parts of Iran, Pakistan,and India.

"All communications have been cut and assessment teams are being sent to the stricken area,"

Andy K3UK

187. 20M Transcon Net ...outcome date

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-04-27 17:13:46 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 187 Message: 187

As promised when the concept of a 20M transcon net was announced, here is the grade. The effectiveness of this net at 1800Z is rated as a 'D'. Not quite an 'F', but close. We had several stations dedicate some serious effort to making the net work, but it did not achieve the goal of becoming a reliable net for relay of NBEMS-style traffic from region to region. As some predicted when first announced, average 20M conditions have required many repeats and deep QSB caused several failed traffic exchanges despite extra tools like FLAMP. Example: Today's Satern Net, held at same time and frequency, is barely copy-able despite using Olivia 8/500.

So, thanks to all that tried to make it work. I will announce plan B, in a separate email.

Andy K3UK

188. 40M East-West propagation test tonight 11PM Eastern 8PM Pacific

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-05-05 18:24:13 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 188 Message: 188

Don VA7DPG and myself will be testing NBEMS operations tonight at 8PM Pacific time, 11PM Eastern time. You are welcome to join in. We are testing with view to a Transcontinental NBEMS Net each Sunday and Wednesday at this time.

Andy K3UK

189. Moore, OK

Yahoo group: Radioassistancenetwork
Date: 2013-05-21 01:01:47 UTC
From: Andrew O'Brien
Topic: 189 Message: 189

Please monitor 7072.5 for any NBEMS needs relating to the situation in Oklahoma. The Governor says communication is difficult.

Andy K3UK